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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH 2016

'WE'RE OFF TO PERFORM WITH PETER KAY!'
PAGE 3



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MUM WHO 'SOFA SURFED' IN CALL FOR HOUSING
PAGE 5

Aston Martin roars in!

'WE LOOKED AT 20 SITES AROUND THE WORLD AND WALES CAME OUT ON TOP'

(Dr Andrew Palmer, company chief executive)

ASTON MARTIN, one of the most iconic names in luxury motoring, has chosen St Athan in Wales as its new base – and 750 jobs will be created.

Twenty sites worldwide were under consideration by Aston Martin, but in the end the facilities at the Ministry of Defence's 'super hangars' in the Vale proved decisive.

St Athan will become the company's second manufacturing site – along with Gaydon, Warwickshire – and will make the new DBX crossover vehicle.

The project is part of a £200million investment in new products and facilities by Aston Martin.

Across the supply chain and local businesses, a further 3,000 jobs are likely to be created across the two sites as a direct result.

Dr Andrew Palmer, CEO of Aston Martin said: "During our 103-year

history, Aston Martin has become famous for making beautiful hand-crafted cars in England.

"Through a detailed evaluation of over 20 potential global locations for this new manufacturing facility, we were consistently impressed with the focus on quality, cost and speed from the Welsh Government team."

"As a great British company, we look forward to St Athan joining Gaydon as our second centre of hand-crafted manufacturing excellence."

Prime Minister David Cameron hailed it as "welcome news" for Wales and the Midlands.

Welsh First Minister Carwyn Jones commented: "Our success today is testament to the reputation, dedication and skills of the Welsh workforce, all qualities that are synonymous with such a luxury, hand-crafted brand as Aston Martin."

(TURN TO PAGE 11 FOR MORE ON THIS STORY).



Will Barry Island's beach huts be put out to tender?

by GEM REPORTER

THE colourful beach huts at Barry Island may have brightened up the promenade as part of £2.9m regeneration scheme, but the 'hut scheme' is now the subject of controversy.

The Vale Council managed the huts for the 2015 season, but is now considering whether a private operator would do a more effective job.

If the recommendations of a report

setting out the options for the huts are agreed then they would be added to a package of concessions along the seafront currently out to tender. The package includes children's rides, a bouncy castle and the hire of deck chairs. The issue has been referred to a Vale scrutiny committee for consideration.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 21)

ABOVE:
All Saints Primary School pupils are pictured on Safer Internet Day.
(See full story on page 23)

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'Thank you to Vale Council'

AS a regular cyclist (and car user), I would like to thank the Vale Council for the improvements to the Port Road cycle path, which I use regularly.

Notwithstanding the countless gripes of motorists, I would like to point out a design flaw. Cycling towards Wenvee, just after the crematorium entrance, there is a dropped kerb

to allow cyclists to join the path.

About two feet after doing so, they are confronted by a metal signpost straddling the centre of the path.

Bearing in mind this is on a downhill stretch, cyclists would easily be doing 20-25mph; so this is a serious accident waiting to happen.

I would be interested to know the Vale's thoughts on this.

(Name and address supplied)

Port Road: 'take a look at Belgium'

WITH reference to GEM letters recently about alterations on Port Road and the associated cycle route, a few years ago there was call for a dual carriageway to Cardiff Airport.

Instead, the main road into Barry has been made narrower, despite the population of the town increasing significantly in recent years and Port Road becoming busier.

The new bus lane has compounded this by there being an awkward 'kink' in the road on the Wenvee side of the roundabout.

The road is so narrow at this point that passing lorries and buses have a very small gap between them when passing in opposite directions.

I don't think this

Bees column is so informative

AS a former beekeeper, I would like to say how much I have looked forward to and enjoyed Harold Williams' articles in The GEM.

They are so informative and enjoyably written. He obviously loves his bees, as I did. They are such fascinating creatures and there is so much more we can learn from and about them.

I must say, I think that Harold's pupils are so lucky to have him as their tutor.

With best wishes to The GEM.

Gerald David, Peterston-Super-Ely.

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

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'Chummy culture' between leadership and opposition

SOMEONE needs to challenge the slack of substance in the statements from Andrew RT Davies AM, regarding local government reorganisation.

Only one councillor in our local council has been willing to confront the self-interests of the political parties, while others who may hold a similar view, are keeping their heads well below the parapet.

I have some regard for Mr Davies because he is a politician willing to challenge those in power, but there is little quantifiable data in his arguments on this matter, and in his determination to protect the Vale of Glamorgan Council from change.

He refers to the cosy relationship between Labour and Plaid, but I'm more concerned about the chummy culture between those in power at the Vale Council and the well-paid main opposition party.

His strategy and strong voice contrasts with the silent opposition of his councillor colleagues, who believe the Vale Council is the best in Wales, derived from the old-guard's collective self-belief in their own success and a few kind words in an audit report. There are several other audit reports that are much less flattering: we really do need change.

Look at the evidence, rather than the alarmist strategy of the 'Save the Vale' campaign and the Labour-run Vale. Council tax is lower in 10 other

Welsh council areas, including Cardiff; exclude house building and cycle paths and economic activity is poor in the Vale, compared to Cardiff.

The dynamic capital city is a massive employer of people from our community; there are 20,500 daily commuters from the Vale to Cardiff; fantastic facilities, shopping and entertainment venues.

I believe we have far too many politicians in Wales, more than Scotland, which has almost twice the population; 60 Assembly members with strong hints that they believe more are required, and 47 councillors in the Vale, which would be reduced to about 20 in a merged Vale/Cardiff council.

Eight merged councils in Wales would equate to about half the number of councillors and an annual saving of around £12million on councillor payments alone.

Dennis Harkus,

FocusBARRY supporter.

'Rhoose has now reached its saturation point'

WHILE it is admirable of the people of Rhoose to pick up the slack and try to make up voluntary rosters for the library, Vale councillors should be ashamed that they are contemplating a closure of such a basic public service; after all, even prisons have libraries, don't they?

Of course, Rhoose isn't the only place where this is happening, but I'm sure most would agree that this small village has reached saturation point – with new-builds, and basic services having been taken away – even our public toilets were taken away several years ago.

Our street lighting is on for only a few hours a night; we have only a few shops in the village – and not forgetting the Christmas lights we were promised last year which didn't materialise!

Well done to the 'Friends of Weycock Cross', who fended off the developers that would have joined Barry onto Rhoose.

At least Cowbridge – which is quite capable, with many more amenities – will take that share of the properties at Darren Farm.

Even access to the beach from the main road is becoming more difficult in Rhoose. I noticed the other day that a well known public footpath is about to be closed to make way for more houses at Rhoose Point.

Where was the public consultation? While this footpath will probably be widened to provide gardens for these houses, the road in and out of Rhoose will creak and groan with all the extra traffic that these houses create; and no, building extra cycle lanes will not help, because as we all know there are many occasions when it is not practical to ride a bike (most cyclists are allergic to cycle lanes anyway!).

This is just an excuse for developers to pull the green card and provide less off-road parking at their properties.

Surely, if the developers are so keen to congest our village, they should be made to deliver on their promises and improve roads and the extra amenities that they always promise?

Don't local residents realise that our council tax rises year on year for all these diminishing services?

(Name and address supplied.)

See more readers' letters on page 23 of this week's GEM

Small charities face hardship

THE Conservative candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan, Ross England, has called for charity shops to be stripped of rate relief.

There are two of Barry's high street charities – Shua, whose staff work at raising funds for their rehoming centre for small animals – and Nova, which is not just a charity shop; it also trains adults with learning difficulties.

These small, local, independent charity shops do not have the financial backing of the larger charities. Does Mr England not realise the hardship this would cause?

Mrs M Mcnamara, Barry.

BEACH HUTS: 'Why the rush to a decision?'

I WAS annoyed last week to learn that the Barry Island beach huts may be offered out to a private company to manage them, after only one year of operation, because they have lost just £215.

The project cost over £3m, so you would expect some thought to have been given to the future management before the project began. There were certainly several comments on social media referring to management arrangements during the construction stage.

I was heavily criticised by the Leader of the Vale Council, who claimed that I "showed a lack of understanding" when I wrote last year about spending so much money on the scheme at a time when cuts are being made.

And now we find that people are not using the facility – 233 units hired over 12 months is hardly the success being repeatedly claimed by certain councillors. Over 12 months, that's just a three per cent occupancy rate.

The council are

hoping to place the beach huts out to tender, parceling them together in a package with the other activities on the Prom, which is bound to narrow interest from the private sector.

Is there really a need to be rushing this decision through? Why not keep them running as they are and let schools and community groups use the empty ones for free? At least the taxpayer will get some value from this, instead of some commercial organisation profiteering off the back of taxpayers.

I just cannot understand how our council justify spending millions on projects, then keep giving them to private companies to run for minimal rents. It happened with the steam railway, it happened with the leisure centres, and it's now happening with the beach huts.

Our council officers have a lot to answer for, and somebody needs to be held to account.

Every year, we are told how cash-strapped the council is! How can we even believe a word of it with actions like this?

Jonathan Osborne, FocusBarry member.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL MARCH 3)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
25 Thur	07.59	9.8	20.16	9.7
26 Fri	08.29	9.5	20.47	9.3
27 Sat	08.59	9.3	21.10	9.2
28 Sun	09.31	9.1	21.46	8.8
29 Mon	10.02	8.7	22.20	8.4
01 Tues	10.39	8.0	23.04	7.9
02 Wed	11.29	7.7		
03 Thur	00.09	7.5	12.43	7.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Resident's sadness at disappearing wildlife on Cemetery Approach



'Where has all the wildlife gone?' Bryn Evans at Cemetery Approach, looking at the land stripped of trees and bushes to the east.

A local man said he has been astonished to see the land either side of Cemetery Approach stripped away so completely with the consequent effect on wildlife.

Gardens are planned, but Mr Bryn Evans (76) thinks it is an opportunity missed to the east side.

Mr Evans, who lives just yards away from the tree-lined avenue that leads to the town's cemetery, said: "They have cut 100 trees and

by GEM REPORTER

bushes to the east and west of Cemetery Approach.

"On the east side there was a wood. It would have been an ideal wildlife area with a path running through it, a pond, bird boxes and a classroom.

"Local schools could have come up in the mornings to have nature sessions. They have cut down the trees and bushes without a thought."

Mr Evans said before clearance work got under way there was a

plethora of wildlife – 14 species of birds, bats, slow worms, newts, frogs, hedgehogs, foxes and squirrels – but now they have all gone.

The land at Cemetery Approach was declared as 'open space' in 1953.

He says he is "disappointed" that Barry Town Council and the Vale Council have missed out on an opportunity to provide something for the younger generation.

CLEARANCE WORKS

A spokeswoman for Barry Town Council said it planned to hold an engagement event with the public and would be pleased to see Mr Evans there if he could attend.

She explained: "The clearance works were carried out by the Vale Council and I am aware that it carried out all the appropriate studies prior to the work being carried out.

"There are plans to encourage wildlife in

the site once completed and also to work with schools and other organisations.

"Barry Town Council is holding a public engagement event this Thursday, February 25, between 3pm and 8pm in the Glamorgan Suite at the Memorial Hall and Theatre and I am sure that if Mr Evans were to attend, councillors would be happy to discuss these issues further with him.

"The plans for the site will be on display for members of the public to view and comment on and Barry Town Council is keen to get views and opinions from members of the public on how the proposed gardens and buildings could be used in the future."

IMPACT

Vale Council cabinet member Coun Gwyn John, said the site had been cleared in October, adding: "The Vale of Glamorgan Council takes great care to ensure that such work does not impact negatively on wildlife.

"The clearance work was only approved after a full ecology report was compiled. The report found there would be no significant impact on bats or birds. Special care was taken, however, to mitigate the impact on newts and slowworms."

Coun John urged local people interested in Cemetery Approach to attend the town council's public event on Thursday.

"I would encourage all local residents who would like to know more, or who wish to share their views on the future of the site, to attend."

BARRY FITNESS CLASS IS ALL GEARED UP FOR PETER KAY SHOW

A BARRY fitness instructor and members of her Highlight Park class are all geared up to perform with Peter Kay at Cardiff's Motorpoint Arena this weekend.

As The GEM reported last week Tracey Raikes was stunned to receive the invitation from the comedian's choreographer while she was on the way to one of her Zumba Gold fitness sessions.

This Saturday, February 27, the ladies will do two routines – 'Up Town Funk' and 'Sax' – and take part in the finale 'Making Your Mind Up'.

Peter will whip away the skirt from one of the ladies just like Bucks Fizz did all those years ago.

The show is part of Kay's Dance for Life Tour of



seven cities over seven Saturdays.

The ladies were photographed when they met up with Peter Kay's choreographer Claire to get some tips on how to perform on the night.

Barry LPG leak

MORRISONS Petrol Station and KFC at Barry Waterfront were reported to have closed for a time on Wednesday, February 25, due to an LPG leak.

FoE meeting

THE next meeting of Barry and Vale Friends of the Earth will be at 7.30pm on March 1 in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry.

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Barry butcher welcomes the First Minister – AND PRESENTS HIM WITH THE FAMOUS VIC HOPKINS CARRIER BAG!



POPULAR Barry butcher Vic Hopkins & Son had a special visitor this week, First Minister Carwyn Jones, who was accompanied by local Assembly Member Jane Hutt.

Naturally, Tony Hopkins showed him one of the country's most popular products. Said Tony: "I showed the First Minister and Jane Hutt how we butcher Welsh lamb and presented him with the famous Vic Hopkins Carrier Bag!"

The Sully U3A Players put on a pantomime...

MEMBERS of Sully U3A were entertained at their February meeting by The Sully U3A Players.

They performed a pantomime: *Milalawhite and the Seven Dwarves* which was written and narrated by one of their members, Jeremy Dix and directed by Marian Cook.

This was a humorous and fast-moving tale of the love story between Princess Milalawhite of the land of Brie and Prince Igor of the land of Chutney.

Of course, before it all ended happily, there were many twists and turns including Milalawhite being abandoned in the forest after her wicked stepmother had ordered her to be killed; being taken in by the seven

dwarves; falling into a deep sleep after eating the apple from the wicked stepmother who had discovered she was still alive; and then being awakened by Prince Igor's kiss.

There was plenty of opportunity for the audience to join in, hissing, cheering and singing.

There was even a chance to go on stage to join in singing 'Heads and Shoulders, Knees and Toes' and the volunteers were rewarded with sweets.

Chairman Jean Bispham thanked them for the hard work they had put in to the production and for giving members such an entertaining afternoon.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 10 at 2pm in The Old School, Sully, when the speaker will be Dean Powell talking on 'Glyn Houston, the Actor'.

New members are welcome to come and see what U3A has to offer.

SUE COLMAN

CSCS COURSE

VALE Council-led Barry Communities First, in partnership with Newydd Housing Association, are looking for jobseekers to take part in a free construction skills certification course to help gain a CSCS card.

Applicants must first attend an information session taking place on March 2, from 2pm - 4pm at Barry Job Centre.

Contact 01446 709432, or visit www.BarryCommunitiesFirst.org for full details.

Penarth RNLI race to rescue of crew

VOLUNTEERS with Penarth RNLI had their Valentine's Day plans disrupted this week when a fishing boat hit trouble.

Penarth RNLI volunteer crew members were paged at lunchtime on Sunday (February 14) to attend to the small fishing boat which had lost steering and was drifting in rough seas at Lavernock Point.

The station's Atlantic 85 lifeboat Maureen Lilian was launched soon after 1.50pm into force 4-5 wind conditions and quickly located the small fishing boat.

Despite the rough sea conditions the lifeboat crew managed to manoeuvre the inshore lifeboat close enough to the casualty vessel to transfer two crew aboard and attach a tow line.

Once secured and made safe, the

casualty vessel was towed to Cardiff Barrage and met by Penarth Coastguard.

All aboard the boat were safe and well.

The volunteer crew members returned to station to prepare the lifeboats and equipment for the next shout, before returning to their homes to enjoy the remainder of Valentine's Day.

Jason Dunlop, Penarth RNLI lifeboat operations manager, said: "The helm and the other crew exercised high levels of skill in successfully transferring to the casualty vessel in such challenging conditions and huge commitment in safely securing the vessel in tow."

"I would like to congratulate the crew involved in this shout on a successful outcome."

EGGSTRA EGG APPEAL

Lyndsay and Nicola Ellis of

LYNDSAY ELLIS @
THE VALE FUNERAL SERVICE

Are calling out for donations of easter eggs to their Easter Egg Appeal. All donated eggs will be given to the local charity Vale Food Bank



From now until Monday 21st March eggs can be brought to our office:
Lyndsay Ellis @ The Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Cadoxton, Barry. 01446 407 962



Call for more housing as one mum was forced to... SOFA-SURF DURING THE WEEK AND CAMP OVER WEEKENDS

THE scarcity of housing, even in the Vale, has been illustrated by the fact that a homeless Barry mother and her 17-year-old son had to 'sofa surf' during the week and camp over the weekend!

It is experiences like this that have inspired the 'Homes for Wales' campaign which brings together people who believe everyone has a right to an affordable home to call their own.

Fiona and Ryan Adkins from Barry became homeless last summer and struggled to find a home that met their needs.

Up until July, Fiona and Ryan had lived in their privately rented two bedroom home in Barry for 16 years, but their world changed when her landlord decided to sell the property.

With nowhere to go they both 'sofa-surfed' with friends during the week and went camping at weekends. Fiona (36) even managed to continue to work full time during this period.

Fiona explained: "It was incredibly stressful, I didn't know where we would stay at night. All our possessions were in storage and it became

increasingly difficult to keep the things we had dry while we were camping during the wet summer we were having."

Five weeks later with no suitable rental accommodation within her budget, she contacted the Vale Council homeless department and was housed in temporary accommodation for nearly four months until a vacant property became available.

Fiona said: "Due to the housing crisis in Wales there simply aren't enough properties for everyone. It is expensive to privately rent and buying a home is out of the question."

"I ideally wanted a house with a garden which is what I had previously but there aren't enough houses out there."

"I stayed in the temporary flat for nearly four months until a two-bedroom flat was found. Unfortunately it doesn't have a garden and is up a few flights of stairs. This isn't great for my arthritis."

"I wish that there was more choice for people in Wales to live in the area that they want, to choose a property that suits them and with features that they need. That's why I am supporting Homes for Wales - to ask the Welsh Government to end the

housing crisis."

The Homes for Wales campaign has been set up to ensure that housing is a key political issue in the National Assembly for Wales elections.

HOUSE PRICES

Since 2008, house prices have risen by 16 per cent; last year 5,070 households were accepted as homeless; currently 152,000 people aged 20 to 24 years old still live at home.

Homes for Wales is an a-political coalition campaign led by seven organisations - Community Housing Cymru Group, Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru, Shelter Cymru, Welsh Tenants, Home Builders Federation, Residential Landlords Association, and the Royal Town Planning Institute.

Stuart Ropke chief executive of Community Housing Cymru (CHC) and spokesman for Homes for Wales said: "The housing crisis is not just about homes, it's about people and there simply aren't enough affordable homes for those who need them."

"Homes for Wales has been set up to speak with one voice and to call on the next Welsh Government to commit to publishing an ambitious plan for housing as part of the new programme of government, one that sets

by GEM REPORTER

out how they will end the housing crisis in Wales. We need people like Fiona to get involved to tell their housing story."

'POSITIVE'

Local AM Jane Hutt told The GEM the Welsh Government supports the campaign's aim of making housing a more prominent issue in Welsh politics.

"We are investing £400 million in

affordable homes and I recently announced, as Finance Minister, a further £20 million to build 230 affordable homes-in addition to the 9,108 affordable homes already delivered during this Assembly."

A Welsh Government spokeswoman said there has been a long-term positive trend in Welsh house building, with 20 per cent more houses

started in 2014-15 than during the previous year.

The spokeswoman said: "Research by the Construction Industry Training Board shows Wales' construction industry is set to grow at nearly triple the UK average, with over 27,000 jobs to be created in the next five years."

"Help to Buy - Wales is now firmly established and our £290 million investment in the second phase will aim to support

the construction of over 6,000 new homes by 2021, which has been widely welcomed by house builders."

She added: "The second phase of our innovative Housing Finance Grant, which is due to begin in 2017-18, will also support the construction of 2,000 homes and create an estimated 5,000 jobs."

For more information on the campaign, go to: www.homesfor.wales



Fiona at her current home following being made homeless last year.

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Alun Cairns MP

Vale of Glamorgan

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10:00am - 12 noon

Saturday 5th March, 2016

**No appointment necessary, come
along to discuss any issues you have or
for support and advice.**

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Forum social secretary tells of Kilimanjaro climb in 1962

THE chairman welcomed three new members Jeff Phillips, Clive Hoskin and Tony, before Barry Men's Forum's social secretary, Alan Morgan, related his experience of climbing the second highest peak in Africa in 1962, which had been first conquered in 1889.

At the time, the mountain, an old volcano that has not erupted for 150,000 years, was a far more daunting expedition than it is today – with the facilities, food and tents arranged now provided at the staging posts.

Alan related how the 12-strong Army team undertook serious physical training prior to the event, and then only 10 of them reached the summit.

The expedition started on the equator, where they set off with a support team in Land Rovers, proceeding through the cultivated areas before abandoning the vehicles.

Hiking through the rain forest, they were at close quarters with virtually all the large African game, which he photographed and

illustrated his talk.

They had selected the Marago route, one of seven, which is the shortest, as their leave was restricted, due to ceremonial duties they had to return for. The members carried all their equipment and by today's standards it was very basic. They took no tents, fed on Army rations and wore smocks.

Averaging climbs of 10 miles a day through extreme heat and low temperatures, which dipped to -20 degrees, they finally reached the peak at 5,895 metres – elated that altitude sickness had not stopped them.

New members are very welcome at £2 per meeting, which includes light refreshments starting at 10.15am and finishing by noon. The Barry Men's Forum meet at the Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall every Thursday morning. The next meeting is on March 3, when the subject is 'History of Barry Docks.' For further information, contact chairman Peter Westcott on 02920 594881.

PMW

Resident's concern at 'near miss' at the Gileston and St Athan junction

A Gileston mother has told The GEM about a 'near miss' she and her son experienced on the B4265 main road junction that leads to St Athan.

Heather Sawyer said an articulated lorry missed her by feet after it was forced into taking evasive action.

The Vale Council told The GEM it has "significantly" improved the junction and nearby bus stop.

Heather explained: "Local residents are running an on going campaign to make the St Athan Junction safe."

"I would like the Vale Council and Councillor Gwyn John to know about a recent experience, with photographic evidence, that my son and I had on the morning of January 25 – during our 'brave it to the bus stop' walk."

"We were standing patiently waiting to cross the junction, on foot. Only to look to our right and see an artic lorry mounting the grass verge and veering back onto the road."

"It was seven feet, yes seven feet, from where we were standing."

"Both shaken, we eventually crossed the road. The reason the lorry had taken this action was to avoid colliding with three cars waiting to turn right in the middle of the road which would have ended in carnage."

"My son Scott was not really aware of the severity of the incident and went off to school, but I on the other hand was shocked and angry in equal measure."

"So the next day we proceeded on the same journey, but by car, thinking it would be a safer option, only it wasn't."

As we crossed the junction, we were met in the middle of the road by a car trying to turn right. "So this left us grid-locked in the middle of the road with cars approaching us from either side travelling at 40 to 50 mph!"

"Again a very near miss. The other car was also carrying children on their way to school. Luckily the on-coming cars on both sides stopped in time to avoid another serious collision."

Mrs Sawyer said she had recently received a "very long winded" letter from Coun John stating that the council had conformed to the very rulebook and "that was the end of the matter as far as they were concerned".

Mrs Sawyer said: "Well, we beg to differ. Coun John also said the police or Fire Service have not been to any accidents at the junction in the last five

years. They were in attendance for two accidents the week after the junction was 'made safer'. So the council should get its facts right. We know the funding is there because a new crossing has been created on Llanmaes Road in Llantwit Major, approximately 200 metres from another light aided crossing on a 30mph road."

"Lastly, I'd like council to explain to me and the other campaigners how they expect children and disabled people to cross a road, with traffic travelling in excess of 40mph, unaided."

"You may have obeyed by all the rules and regulations on paper, but believe me from personal experience and evidence they are not working!"

"There is going to be a fatality or fatalities at this junction, but the council has got the power to prevent this."

Last September, The GEM reported how residents were demanding safety improvements to the junction after another local person was almost knocked over at the junction making her way from Gileston to St Athan.

Local residents think three safety options should be under consideration – traffic lights, a reduction in the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph or a speed camera.

Coun Gwyn John, cabinet member for visible services and leisure, said: "The Vale Council has used \$106 contributions from developers to significantly improve the junction and nearby bus stop. By improving the lighting and traffic island we have made the highway safer for pedestrians."

"Prior to these works being undertaken a detailed traffic assessment was carried out and the improvements made were in line with the findings of this report."

"The council has no record of any collisions at this junction since the improvement works were carried out but will now investigate those that Mrs Sawyer mentions."

Coun John added: "We remain confident, however, that the improvements already made are sufficient to ensure the safety of all road users. Further to this our most recent traffic data shows that the level of compliance with the speed limit to be high."



Residents claim the junction (with St Athan to the left and Gileston to the right) is dangerous due to the speed of some motorists.

Kayaker helped by Barry Dock lifeboat



BARRY Dock RNLI lifeboat was called out to assist a kayaker at Cold Knap on Tuesday, February 16.

The kayaker had capsized and called the coastguard for help. The coastguard asked the RNLI lifeboat to respond to the emergency and so the volunteer crew launched its all-weather lifeboat and a smaller D-Class lifeboat at 2.36pm.

On arrival at the scene, it was clear that the kayaker had managed to get ashore and was safe with the shore based coastguard team. A lifeboat crew member was landed on the beach to assist but soon returned to the boat and returned to the station with his crew mates.

An RNLI spokesperson said: "If you are in trouble in the sea, or see someone who is, call 999 and ask for the coastguard."

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Dinas Probus Club hears a tragic World War 2 tale of retribution

AT the recent meeting of Dinas Powys Probus Club, the guest speaker was Dilwyn Samuel from Dinas Powys, and the title of his talk was 'Lidice'.

He gave a vivid account of the background to the destruction of the village of Lidice in the Czech

Republic, and the massacre of its inhabitants in 1942 by the Nazis, as a reprisal for the assassination of Reinhard Heydrich.

The assassins were Slovak and Czech soldiers, Jozef Gabčík and Jan Kubis, who were part of a British-trained team of parachutists sent by the Czechoslovakia government-in-exile in 'Operation Anthropoid'.

Heydrich had been acting Reichsprotektor of Bohemia and Moravia since 1941, this being the former Czechoslovakia, occupied by the Nazis since April 1939.

Heydrich is widely regarded as being brutal, even by the standards of his inhuman Nazi contemporaries; Hitler referred to him as the man with "a heart of

iron". He was responsible for special task forces for seeking out and neutralising resistance to the Nazis. After his arrival in Prague in 1942, he instigated a 'reign of terror' and became known as the 'Butcher of Prague'.

On May 27, 1942, the day of the assassination, the events were a pantomime of errors. Gabčík's sten gun jammed as he was aiming at Heydrich's car; Heydrich ordered his driver to stop and stood up in the car with his pistol which wouldn't fire (not even loaded according to his driver); Kubis threw a grenade which wounded both of them; and Heydrich ordered his driver to pursue the fleeing assailants.

Heydrich refused to be operated on by non-German doctors, and died from septicaemia on June 4, caused by pieces of clothing and upholstery having entered his body when the bomb exploded.

The enraged Hitler commanded that any village found to have harboured the assassins was to be destroyed, all adult men to be shot, all women transported to concentration camps, and also all the children not selected for Germanisation.

Lidice was chosen, although without justification.

Gabčík, Kubis and the other parachutists remained hidden in the crypt of the Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius until June 18, 1942, when they were betrayed, and attacked by the Gestapo and SS. They used their last bullets to commit suicide to avoid capture.

In 1943, the British Government commissioned a film to be made about the story of Lidice; it was directed by Humphrey Jennings and called *The Silent Village*. It was made in Cwmgiedd in the Swansea Valley, all the acting being done by local people.

Dil could point out many members of his own family among the cast. This brought the tragic tale to an end.

The club members present were enthusiastic in their gratitude to Dil for an excellent talk.

DE

Treks in urban and coastal landscapes

PENARTH and District Ramblers recently hosted two walks only a few days apart, but with contrasting weather conditions, firstly under rainfall and then glorious winter sunshine.

Five walkers joined Joy at Cogan and because of the inclement weather ditched the planned walk in favour of a trip around Cardiff Bay.

Starting off in rain and crossing the River Ely via Pont y Werin and making their way along the slippery boardwalk to cross the River Taff by means of Clarence Road Bridge into Hamadryad Park, a saunter through the Wetland Reserve led to the old Mount Stuart Graving Docks.

After crossing a deserted Mermaid Quay then past the terracotta Pierhead building, the Senedd, the Norwegian Church and the Scott memorial, the rain ceased, and following Tardis Way ahead of them, the choppy incoming tide was smashing up against the lock gates of the barrage sending spray high into the air.

Crossing to Penarth Marina with its huge variety of moored boats, a swift walk up through John Batchelor Way led them uphill and back to Cogan after their short morning ramble.

William fared much better as he and his group of 14 followers left the visitors' centre at Cwmcam on a chilly morning under blue skies and bright

sunshine to enjoy the delights of forest walking.

First on broad gravelled tracks followed by muddy steep paths on the descent to cross the Nant Gwyddon and a chance to examine the picturesque form of frost called Feather Frost, which is made up of curled ice filaments growing on waterlogged wood and something of a rare find.

After negotiating their way through an unexpected assault course of newly felled trees completely blocking the path, a gradual climb in warm sunshine through Craig y Trwyn and Craig Pant-glas led them onto open moorland and into a cool breeze and approaching the radio masts on Mynydd Twyn-glas, a ditch on the moor came in handy to shelter for some lunch.

Setting off towards Mynydd Maen passing ice-covered pools and into a strong headwind, the snow covered peaks of the central Beacons lit up the northern horizon before entry back into the forest at Craig y Glyn.

Then descending past old mineral rights boundary stones via a beech tree-lined path with clear views across the Nant Carn valley to the depleted steep valley sides, where larch disease has taken its toll and a huge amount of new tree planting is taking place, there were glorious views of the Iron Age hill fort on Twmbarlwm.

Following a series of zig zag paths and dropping back down into the valley to return back to their start, there was time for a warming drink in the café before the journey home.

On February 27, meet 9am at Cogan leisure centre for a nine-mile moderate circular walk from Langstone to Penhow; contact Susan on 07954 139 946.

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RECEIVE free and impartial advice on cutting your energy bills and find out if you are eligible for free home improvement grants through the Welsh Government NEST programme.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a session at The Age Connects Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry from 10am to 12 Midday on Tuesday, March 1.

You will be able to chat to one of the Nest advisers; no appointment is needed. For further information contact 01446 732385; to arrange a home visit call 08088 082244.

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Ready, Set, Recycle... Scouts take up challenge



BEAVERS, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts across the Vale of Glamorgan are taking on a new environmental challenge – aimed at boosting local recycling, as The Scout Association teams up with national recycling campaign, Recycle for Wales.

The 'Ready, Set, Recycle' challenge which runs until end of May, sees young people in Scouting across Wales and England compete to recycle the most plastic, paper, card, metal and glass packaging items at home.

Scouts who recycle the most will be awarded an activity prize and goody bags from Recycle for Wales.

The challenge will also help young people learn

the skills they need to achieve their environmental conservation activity badge.

Angela Spiteri, recycling expert at Recycle for Wales, said: "We want local young people in Scouting to really think about recycling habits within their homes and to see what else they can do to recycle more and help their local community."

Hannah Kentish, UK Scouting's national Youth Commissioner said: "Preserving our environment is very much part of Scouting's core values. With the help of Recycle for Wales, we'll be encouraging our young people and their families to recycle as much as possible".

For more information on the 'Ready, Set, Recycle' challenge, visit www.scouts.org.uk/recycle now.

Time to enter the Wales National Transport awards



Roadworks report for the Vale...

Roadworks:
Junction 34 Miskin interchange; Barry Court, Barry at the Court Road/Jenner Park entrance; Clawdd Coch, Pendoylan.

Temporary traffic control:

Aberthin Road, Cowbridge onto Cowbridge Road, Aberthin; A4055 Harbour Road, Barry (The Causeway); A4055 Harbour Road, Barry (bottom of Ship Hill); Maendy Road, Aberthin near Cae Lloi

Farm; Paget Road, Barry Island at its junction with Clive Road and Plymouth Road; Penlan Road, Llandough; St Brides Road, Wick (adjacent to the new development); Main Road, Ogmere by Sea; Llandough Hill, Penarth; South Road, Sully.

Road closure:

Clive Road, Barry Island at the junction with the access road to Barry Island overflow car park; Solent Road, Barry.

ABOVE; Flashback: The Vale Council and New Adventure Travel collect their award for partnership with Kevyn Jones, MD of New Adventure Travel, CILT's Margaret Everson, Bus Users Cymru's Andrew Eccleshare, Coun Lis Burnett and Professor Stuart Cole.

ORGANISATIONS across the Vale are being invited to enter the prestigious Wales National Transport awards – the only scheme to celebrate the achievements of the Welsh transport and logistics sector.

The awards, organised by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) Cymru, will look for businesses, public sector organisations and individuals that have made a difference in the industry, rewarding innovation and best practice.

There are categories for a variety of projects, initiatives and individuals.

The CILT Cymru Wales National Transport awards ceremony will be held on June 10 at City Hall in Cardiff. Deadline for entries is April 30, with the shortlist being announced in mid-May. Visit tinyurl.com/CILTWales.

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THE FRUITS OF EXTRA £1.1BN FOR WELSH NHS WILL ALSO BOOST WELSH ECONOMY

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by **Jane Hutt AM** (Minister for Finance)

WITH an extra £1.1bn for the Welsh NHS in the Welsh Government's budget over the last two years, I know this will protect vital services and boost investment – which contributes to achieving a healthier, more equal and prosperous Wales.

When the Health Minister Mark

Drakeford and I visited Llandough Hospital last week, we saw the fruits of our £88m investment in the new centre, which will provide world-class facilities and care for people with mental health needs, as services move from Whitchurch Hospital to Llandough.

We also saw the fruits of our investment in the cystic fibrosis centre, which provides first-class treatment for people with cystic fibrosis throughout Wales.

It is treating increasing numbers as people live longer thanks to new drugs and new treatments and access to life-transforming transplants.

It was great to be there with the Health Minister discussing Cardiff and Vale University Health Board's plans to expand the cystic fibrosis centre, to provide more beds and services and

urging it to bring them forward. The Welsh Government has earmarked finance for the expansion and the centre has a brilliant fundraising campaign to support the plans.

The Welsh Government budget also included £21m more funding for social services next year, and the intermediate care fund, which helps to integrate health and social care, will rise to £60m next year, thanks to increased investment by the Welsh Government.

Our investment in social care is vital and I was privileged to present long service awards at College Fields care home in Barry this week to members of staff who have reached their landmarks of 10 and 15 years of loyal service in social care.

During our time at Llandough Hospital, the Health Minister and I met healthcare staff –

nurses, junior doctors, porters, skilled staff from pathology and surgical teams, midwives and administrators – to talk about our approach to negotiating the pay and conditions of NHS staff as well as working in partnership with staff.

I am very proud that in Wales, we pay the living wage to NHS staff and junior doctors did not go on strike in Wales – we will not be imposing a new contract on junior doctors, as the UK Government is doing in England.

The Health Minister told staff at Llandough that the Welsh Government is investing £85m in the next generation of healthcare professionals and that the numbers of nurse training places in Wales next year will be the highest ever since devolution.

There will also be increases in training places for other staff,

including physiotherapists, radiographers, healthcare support workers and clinical scientists.

He said: "Highly-trained staff are the heart of the Welsh NHS – this £85m investment will go towards developing the next generation who will provide healthcare to the nation."

"This investment is based on what NHS organisations have told us they need to maintain services."

"Despite the financial pressures faced during recent years, we have continued to invest in education and training for health professionals in Wales. This year is no exception."

The respected Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) reported recently on the quality of healthcare in Wales, Scotland, England and Northern Ireland. It

concluded that quality is at the heart of the Welsh NHS and patient-centred care is a major priority. The two-year independent study also found that "no consistent picture emerges of one of the UK's four health systems performing better than another", even though the OECD acknowledges Wales faces unique challenges because of the larger proportion of older people and children in the population – both of whom tend to rely on

NHS services. Welsh Government funding for health and social services is the highest it has ever been with a record £6.7bn invested this financial year, rising to £7bn in 2016-17 – the UK Government's own figures show Wales spends more per person on health and social care than in England.

A fairer, better Wales needs to be a healthier Wales, a more resilient and skilled Wales leading to a more prosperous Wales.

Winter pressures sees big increase in hospital patients

EMERGENCY and urgent care services in Cardiff and the Vale have seen a rise in patients as they cope with winter pressures.

The number of patients attending the emergency unit (EU) at University Hospital of Wales (UHW) increased by 13 per cent in January, compared to last year.

"A total of 5,310 patients attended the UHW emergency unit in January. The greatest increase was seen in patients attending with minor injuries. The team also dealt with a significant rise in the number of seriously ill patients, dealing with up to five major trauma cases in one day," a spokesperson said.

The GP out of hours service saw a five per cent increase of more than 11,500 calls in January alone.

COUNCILLORS' SURGERY

INDEPENDENT councillors for Court ward, Barry, Richard and Robert Bertin, will be holding a residents' advice meeting this Saturday from 2pm until 3pm in the Community Room at the Barry library.

For further information, contact Coun Richard Bertin on 01446 736227.

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'I (HADN'T) BEEN EXPECTING YOU, MR BOND...' 'Double 0-heaven' as Aston Martin leaves Vale 'shaken AND stirred'!

by GEM STAFF REPORTER

The arrival of Aston Martin and 750 new jobs in the Vale is a massive shot in the arm for manufacturing in Wales.

It is the culmination of years of background work by the Welsh and UK Governments.

Aston Martin's luxury DBX crossover vehicle will be built at St Athan from 2020.

First Minister of Wales, Carwyn Jones was "thrilled" to have fought off competition from around the globe.

"I am delighted to officially welcome Aston Martin to Wales. We have been working closely with the company for almost two years in the face of fierce competition from other potential sites across the world.

"Our success today is testament to the reputation, dedication and skills of the Welsh workforce, all qualities that are synonymous with such a luxury, hand-crafted brand as Aston Martin.

"Today is the start of a long-term relationship between Wales and Aston Martin. We will work together in building on the strong foundations of our partnership to nurture a prosperous and rewarding future for this iconic company and its skilled workforce in Wales."

Prime Minister, David Cameron said: "Aston Martin is an iconic British brand and the decision to invest here shows real confidence in our economy.

"With our economic strengths and easy

access to European markets, the UK automotive sector is thriving. It is one of the biggest in Europe – and the most productive – and Aston Martin's creation of up to 1,000 new jobs in Wales and the West Midlands is welcome news."

EXPORTING

Occupying around 90 acres, the new Aston Martin facility at St Athan will re-purpose some of the facilities currently in use at the site by the Ministry of Defence.

Centred on the transformation of the three existing 'super-hangars' at Mod St Athan, construction work is planned to commence next year, with full vehicle production commencing in 2020.

St Athan will be the sole production facility for the new Aston Martin crossover vehicle.

A concept crossover vehicle named 'DBX' was first shown in early 2015 and demonstrated the company's intention for a fast-growing segment of the luxury market. With growing demand for such vehicles in markets like China and the United States, it is expected that over 90 per cent of the production from St Athan will be exported outside the United Kingdom.

A crossover vehicle combines both sports and passenger features. Vale MP Alun Cairns hailed Aston Martin's decision to make cars in St Athan as a "game changer" for future local employment prospects.

Mr Cairns said he welcomed news that the



Aston Martin plans to manufacture its DBX crossover car at St Athan.

'super-hangars' on the north side of St Athan airfield had been identified as an ideal site after the Prime Minister had worked closely with Aston Martin and the Ministry of Defence.

The Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Neil Moore, said work on the Vale's infrastructure had paid big dividends.

"There could not be a stronger vote of confidence in the Vale as a place to set up business than the one we see today.

"It is also a vindication of the work that this council has carried out with Welsh Government to improve the highway infrastructure that serves the Cardiff Airport and St Athan Enterprise Zone.

"The 'Cardiff Airport and St Athan Enterprise Zone' has long been recognised as hugely important to the economic development of the Vale, and as such has been central to our, and Welsh Government's plans for the area.

"The Vale Council is represented on the board and plays an active role in its work. It is fantastic to see this work and that of our partners now bearing fruit."

South Wales Central regional AM, Andrew RT Davies, said: "This is fantastic news for Wales and the Vale and comes only months after our Prime Minister made a direct pitch to the company to build its DBX concept car in St Athan.

"This is once again another example of David Cameron and his Conservative Government delivering our long-term economic plan for the people of Wales."

SKILLS

The Vale AM, Jane Hutt, said attracting a company of Aston Martin's stature and a long term investment represented a real achievement.

"Creating 750 highly skilled jobs at St Athan – with a further 1,000 jobs across the supply chain and local businesses – as a direct result of this investment is a huge

achievement for the Welsh Government.

"I am absolutely delighted that St Athan has at long last got the long-term investment it needs from a car manufacturer which has a 103-year history for making hand-crafted cars in England – now choosing St Athan in the heart of the 'Cardiff Airport and St Athan Enterprise Zone' for its second manufacturing Centre."

Plaid Cymru candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Ian Johnson, said: "I am very pleased that Aston Martin have made the decision to choose the Vale over the English Midlands.

"Locally, we have very many skilled people with experience in the automobile industry, which I'm sure was a major part of the attraction.

"We need to make sure that we aren't disappointed, as we have been by previous major announcements about St Athan that never got off

the drawing board."

Eluned Parrott, Regional AM, and Welsh Lib Dem Shadow Economy Minister commented:

"This investment will have a transformative effect on our local area and I look forward to seeing more detailed plans.

"I hope the Welsh Government will work with Aston Martin, to ensure that the maximum effect is felt in the local area, so that Aston Martin can embed themselves in the local supply chain to deliver a huge benefit to the entire area."

Luxury car making is coming to the super hangar site in the Vale.



The impressive facilities at the super hangar site at St Athan fought off competition from England, North America and the Middle East.

BPS update for farmers

FARMERS in Glamorgan are to get a basic payment scheme (BPS) update at the next Glamorgan NFU Cymru county meeting on March 2, in St Mary's Hotel, Pencoed (7.30pm).

The meeting will receive a full policy update on all issues surrounding BPS payments and the new EID Cymru legislation. It will also provide details on the Rural

Development Programme (RDP) and what funds farmers can access, including the new window for the Sustainable Production Grant scheme (SPG).

Abi Reader, Glamorgan NFU Cymru County chairman said: "All the topics that we will be discussing at this meeting are issues that are affecting farmers at present and will do long into the future."



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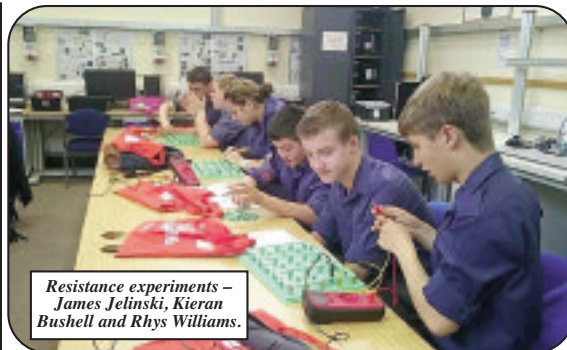
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Resistance experiments – James Jelinski, Kieran Bushell and Rhys Williams.

AIR Training Corp Cadets from Barry and Merthyr Tydfil recently attended an Aerospace Activity Day at the University of South Wales, Trefforest.

The cadets visited the university's new Aerospace Engineering facility, gaining both

hands-on and theoretical training on electronics, theory of flight and aircraft propulsion. The topics were chosen to help the cadets with the subjects that they learn in the Air Training Corps.

The cadets, aged between 13 and 18, also visited the university's hangar workshop and

Jetstream aircraft.

Aircraft maintenance engineering lecturer Ade Pitman said: "Held as part of the university's Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) programme, our aerospace activity day is designed to provide young people with an insight into the growing aviation industry, and engineering in general.

"The day provides young people with an introduction into some of the topics that can be studied if they are thinking about a career in aircraft engineering.

"Now that the university has recently opened an additional hangar and workshops, we are planning further STEM events to make use of our full motion flight simulator and facilities."

The Air Cadets also undertake many other exciting activities and opportunities including flying, gliding, shooting, sports, adventure training, team building exercises, expeditions, field craft training, UK and overseas camps and the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for young men and women between 12 (in school year 8) – 17 years. The Squadron parade at 5th Barry Scouts on Everard Street, Barry. Monday, 7:30pm – 9:30pm and Wednesday, 7pm – 9:30pm. You can also phone/text the Squadron mobile on 07486 501864, email oc.372@aircadets.org or visit www.372squadron.org for more information about becoming an Air Cadet.

JASON HORTON

Welsh Conservative leader backs Brexit – BUT HIS VALE COLLEAGUE TAKES THE OPPOSITE VIEW

THE divided nature of the Conservative Party over the EU referendum has been illustrated by the differing opinions of two of the party's big Welsh hitters.

Earlier this week, the Prime Minister crossed swords with Boris Johnson in the House of Commons. Johnson believes the European Union deal isn't substantial enough for him to vote in.

Andrew RT Davies, the leader of the Conservatives in Wales, agrees and told The GEM: "In June voters will have a say on Britain's future in the European Union for the first time in more than a generation.

"Thanks to the Conservatives, the future of our relationship with Europe will then be placed in the hands of the people – not politicians.

"After a great deal of consideration I have decided that I will be voting for Britain to leave

the EU.

"It is my belief that our future will be best served as part of a looser, economic relationship with the European Union."

But Vale MP and Welsh Minister Alun Cairns, who admits he is no fan of the European Union, says he will vote to stay in.

He explained: "In the 2015 general election I stood on a manifesto commitment to deliver a referendum on EU membership. We have delivered on that promise.

"Voters in the Vale and across the United Kingdom will have the opportunity to make their decision on June 23.

"I am no fan of the European Union and the bureaucracy it imposes. After careful consideration, however, I have decided to vote to remain as I believe an exit would lead to uncertainty at a critical time for our economy."

Speaker recalls Vale air disaster



ABOVE: The Siginstone air crash of 1950 - Don Llewellyn will be talking to the Penarth Aviation Society about the disaster on March 4.

ON Sunday, March 12 1950 at around 3pm an Avro Tudor chartered passenger aircraft crashed in the Vale of Glamorgan near the village of Siginstone.

The aircraft was only yards from the runway at Llandow airfield – its destination. The casualty count was 80 persons, 75 of whom were rugby supporters returning from seeing Wales win the Triple Crown for the first time in 37 years, and the five members of the crew. Remarkably, there were three survivors of what was, at the time, the world's worst civilian air disaster.

In 1990, the local award-winning TV producer Don Llewellyn was invited to make a 40th anniversary documentary about this disaster.

On Friday, March 4, nearly 66 years later, Don will be talking to the Penarth Aviation Society about the disaster and his part in

making the documentary and how he chose to highlight the stories from relatives of the deceased, rather than just concentrating on the crash itself (the cause of which is still a matter of speculation).

He was able, as a result of the programme, to pressure the local authorities to place a memorial in Siginstone to those perished in the tragedy.

Why not join the society? We meet on

the first Friday of the month at the Penarth Conservative Club, 7.45pm for 8pm. Visitors are welcome to attend a meeting and sample our hospitality prior to joining the society.

For further information go to Penarth Aviation Society's website (www.penarthaviationsociety.co.uk) or facebook page (facebook.com/penarthaviationsociety).

Energy grants on offer in area

EON is inviting charities and community groups to apply for up to £2,000 of funding through its Energy Action Fund.

To qualify, groups can put forward requests to support activities that reduce their own energy use, help generate energy from a renewable source, or provide energy efficiency advice for local people. The deadline is Friday, April 8.

Since its launch in 2013, the fund has distributed over £75,000 to more than 40 community groups nationwide to support qualifying energy-related projects.

To access the application form, visit eonenergy.com/About-eon/Community/energy-action-fund.

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Celebrating 15 years in Penarth with the opening of our *new hearing centre!*



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(from left to right)
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• Laura Wroe
• Tonya Sutton
• Sue Sharp
• Susan Wroe
• Alison Roberts

'Having lost 70% of my hearing, I was very glad but unsure when I was introduced by a friend to Scott Wroe. Now some year later I can't thank Scott enough for his excellent, kind and caring service. Without his professional help and advice my world would be a silent one instead I can now hear more than I ever expected and for that I am most grateful.' **Mrs S Smith**

'The aids have given me a new lease of life and I can now hear on the telephone. My children and friends cannot get over the change in me. I wish I'd done this years ago.' **Best wishes Mr Phillips**

Since having hearing aids I have realised how much better daily life can be. I was a little anxious on my first visit to Scott Wroe Hearing but need not have worried. Scott was very patient throughout and I am pleased with the result. **Yours sincerely Eileen Hill**

Many thanks for your wonderful aftersales service over and above the call of duty! **Chris and Doug Hall**

Hearing loss can be a very daunting experience. Fortunately I was lucky enough to be recommended to Scott Wroe. With the highly skilled and sympathetic expertise of Scott Wroe I have come to terms with increasing deafness and learnt to combat the condition with expert modern technology. I am extremely grateful for all the help and up to date information I have received from this excellent firm. **Mrs J Thorpe**

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*Figures as of end of January 2016

Mum Sarah tackles marathon to help fight childhood cancer



RIGHT: Sarah gives the thumbs-up as she prepares for the London Marathon.

A FAMILY fun day is being organised by Once Upon A Play Time, Bridgend, on Saturday, March 5 from 9am to 5pm – to help raise money for Children with Cancer UK and support mum Sarah Gardner, who is running the London Marathon for the charity.

There will be facepaints, tattoos, balloon modelling, bouncy castles, games and prizes.

Sarah (43) from Broadlands, Bridgend, is busy training hard for the big day and hopes to raise (£2,000) through online sponsorship at (uk.virginmoneygiving.com/sarah-gardner-

SAVMLMBONDS3332016-4159) and fundraising activities.

Children with Cancer UK is dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer. It funds lifesaving research into the causes, prevention and treatment and vital welfare programmes.

Sarah explained: "After having a dreadful scare with my eldest son, who is seven, and then receiving the best possible news, I decided to raise money for those who are not so lucky. Believe me, I count my blessings every day and I just wanted to do something for the families who get such devastating news."

Cancer is the biggest child-killer disease in the UK. Almost 4,000 children and young people are diagnosed every year and it is on the increase. There are more than 50 types of childhood cancer and while survival rates for the most common form, leukaemia, have increased dramatically over the past 50 years, for some rare types of cancer, survival rates remain at zero.

To help Children with Cancer UK raise essential funds and continue the fight against childhood cancer, visit childrenwithcancer.org.uk to make a donation or to find out how to get involved.

Tory leader in call for freeze in council tax

WELSH

Conservative leader, Andrew R T Davies, this week hit out at news that Vale residents face a 3.9 per cent council tax hike.

The South Wales Central AM has said: "We all appreciate the financial pressure that local authorities are under following the Welsh Labour Government's cuts to the budget this year and the Finance Minister and Vale Assembly Member

must bear some responsibility for this.

"Householders across the Vale are getting a raw deal; plain and simple. Labour has the power to freeze council tax in Wales and has stubbornly refused – again and again."

Mr Davies went on: "Not only would a council tax freeze be a huge boost to the local economy, we (the Conservatives) want to put money back into the pockets of the people who know best how to spend it – families themselves."

Hedge cutting tests competitors at Llandow

THE Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society recently held their annual mechanical hedge cutting championship at Llandow, by permission of Mr Tony Evans.

Participants were competing for the Julian Sullivan Shield and the event was sponsored by John Edwards & Son.

Weather conditions could not have been worse; rain and high winds all day. The competitors were at least dry and relatively warm inside their cabs, but the officials and spectators had to endure the cold and wet conditions.

The judges, David Lloyd and Owen Elliott, who had travelled from Gower, had a difficult task, not only braving the elements but also deciding on the winner as the standard of hedge cutting was so high.

One of the judges commented that "one could not put a matchstick between all those entering the competition". It will be noted by those driving through the Vale of Glamorgan that the standard of hedge cutting is top class, which bodes well for future competitions of this nature.

The champion this year was Lloyd Thomas, with James Morgan

placed second and Matthew Popham taking third place. Rees David, James Ford and Tom Lougher were each highly recommended.

The society chairman, Andrew Studley, thanked the officials for their hard work and especially John Thomas of Gileston, for setting out the plots and ensuring that everything went well on the day, in spite of the weather getting the better of him!

BG

New York award nominations for S4C

FOUR S4C programmes have been nominated for a prize at the 2016 New York International Film and Television awards.

Nominated for a children's/youth programme award is *Llund Ceg*, produced by Green Bay Media, which tackles issues which can trouble young people.

Drama *Y Gwyll/Hinterland* is nominated for a crime drama award, for the second series which was first broadcast on S4C in autumn 2015.

Nominated in the national/international affairs category is the documentary *Dagrau o Waed: Rhyfel Corea*, a co-production between S4C, Awen Media and JTV in Korea.

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Vale 50+ transport task group meeting



Left to right (front row): Carol Williams – member, Vanessa Mordin – member. Left to right (back row): Gilly Davies – Chair of Arts, Crafts and Leisure Task Group, Don Read – vice chair of Transport Task Group, Ellie Lewis – secretary of Transport Task Group, Sian Summers-Rees – director for the Community Transport Association in Wales, Anne Marie Little – Chair of Transport Task Group.

THE Vale 50+ Strategy Forum Transport Task Group recently held a meeting with the Community Transport Association.

At the meeting, 22 people participated in an interesting presentation plus Q&A session with Sian Summers-Rees, Director for the Community Transport Association in Wales.

The national membership association leads and supports community transport to be successful and sustainable in Wales, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

It provides leadership by promoting community transport and influencing the development of better strategy, policy, regulations and investment at all levels of government.

It provides support by

advocating high standards of practice and providing advice, information, training and hands-on support that helps operators work to these standards.

Using everything from mopeds to minibuses, typical services include voluntary car schemes, community bus services, school transport, hospital transport, dial-a-ride, wheels to work and group hire services. Community transport is responsive, accessible and flexible.

GREENLINKS

Don Read, our vice-chair, spoke of his past experiences of volunteering for East Vale Community Transport and another Forum member, Jack Hawkins, is currently a volunteer driver for Greenlinks.

East Vale Community Transport provides transport for local organisations, mainly the elderly and disabled in the East

Vale area. Telephone: 029 2070 5138 or email: eastvale.ct06@virgin.net.

Greenlinks serves residents of the rural Vale for shopping trips, social visits, day trips or hospital visits. Telephone: 0800 294 1113 or email: greenlinks@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 12, and the speaker will be Richard Davies, operations and commercial director Cardiff Bus, who will give a powerpoint presentation which will include a Q&A session. Questions to be submitted to me by April 5.

New members will be made most welcome.

To become a member, or for more information on the work of the Vale 50+ Strategy forum, visit our website www.valeopf.co.uk.

Anne Marie Little

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What's on, and where?

Bingo afternoon
THE management committee of Rhose Community Hall is holding a Bingo afternoon on Saturday February 27; doors will open at 1.45pm at the hall in Stewart Road, Rhose.

Light refreshments will be provided at the half time break together with a raffle. Join in for an enjoyable afternoon!

Evening with the author

TICKETS are still available from Griffin Books for an evening with author Julia Forster, who will be discussing her latest novel with Mel Griffin tomorrow, February 26.

The event takes place at Waterloo Tea, Stanwell Road at 7.30pm and tickets are £5 each.

Barry libraryTHE Into Film Club at Barry Library is showing Roald Dahl's *The BFG* on February 27, starting at 11.15am. Suitable for children 4+, children four and under must be accompanied by an adult.

This is a free event, refreshments available for a small charge.

On Crafty Friday - Monkey Business, on February 26 from

4pm - 5pm. Suitable for children aged 6 - 10, there is a £1 charge for the session; call 01446 422425 to book a place.

Other regular activities taking place at the library: Bounce & Rhyme every Monday, 11am - 11.30am (term-time only); a lively singing session for children from newborn - 12 months.

Rhyme and Sign (term time only) Mondays, 9.45am - 11am (12 months+) and 2pm - 2.30pm (all ages); enjoy rhymes and stories while learning basic sign language in this interactive session.

Storytime every Wednesday, 2pm - 2.30pm; we read a selection of our favourite picture books in the library, followed by a small craft session at the end!

For further information on these activities, contact the Library and Information Service at the Vale Council on 01446 422425, or visit the website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.**Porthcawl****Farmers' Market**
ON Saturday, February 27 the monthly Farmers' Market will take place from 9am to 12.30pm at the Awel y Mor Community Hall in Porthcawl (behind the fire station).

In addition to the usual producers Davies of Dorwen will have a selection of Highland Cattle beef; Mair's Bakehouse will be back with organic French style breads and Cerdin Foods will have their usual quality pastries.

Another local producer, Emma Richards from Porthcawl will be supplying Welsh cakes fresh from the griddle with jams and chutney.

Free tax advice

DO you worry about your tax affairs?

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a free tax advice session at the Age Connects Senior Health Shop on Monday, February 29 from 9.30am - 11.30am.

No appointment necessary, go along and chat to the retired professional tax advisers.

Contact 01446 732385 for further information; home visits can be arranged.

Fairtrade in Bridgend

TO celebrate this year's Fairtrade Fortnight social enterprise, SUSSED is offering Fairtrade 'freebies' from February 29 - March 13.

The charity Sustainable Wales is also holding an all-day Feel Good Fairtrade breakfast and a Big Brew

afternoon tea on Saturday, March 12 above SUSSED, 4 - 5 James Street, Porthcawl (01656 783962).

"Sample tasty tea, delicious coffee or decadent chocolate during the entire fortnight in SUSSED, development officer Alexis Kirsten urged.

Valeways guided walks

ON March 1, Crwydro meet at Ynys Y Barri, the Coffee Cove Cafe at 10am. At 2.30am the Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Llantwit Major Town Hall car park.

For further information, visit www.valeways.org.uk or call 01446 749000.**Cowbridge Art Society**

ON Thursday, March 3, there will be a demonstration by Cardiff artist Julie Shakston, whose theme will be Alchemy - Exploring Mixed Media.

The society meets each Thursday 7pm - 9pm at Old Hall, Cowbridge.

Visitors and new members are welcome (visitor's fee £3).

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JOHN HILLCOAT'S TRIPLE 9 MAKES FOR A LACKLUSTRE AND PREDICTABLE OFFERING...



by
GARETH JAMIESON

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EVER since director John Hillcoat broke through with 2005's *The Proposition*, the Australian's keen visual sense and bleak world view has lent itself to some engaging films such as *The Road and Lawless*.

His latest film, *Triple 9*, is an ensemble piece with a cast full of talent; it tells the story of a group of criminals

and corrupt cops who are being blackmailed by the Russian Mafia, led by Kate Winslet's Irina.

The group are tasked with pulling off an ambitious heist, involving the murder of a cop (played by Casey Affleck), the 'triple 9' of the title, that can be performed when the police rush to the murder scene. However, all does not go to plan, and soon allegiances and relationships are tested...

It appears that in the world of film, there are very few decent police officers around; after all, the number of films made about corrupt, 'dirty' cops far outweighs the ones made about good, honest and decent men with a badge.

So *Triple 9* is hardly breaking any new ground with its story of police officers working alongside criminals, yet can such a shopworn narrative yield anything fresh and exciting?

The answer is, unfortunately, no - a surfeit of wonderful actors failing to energise what is a rather dull and un-engaging film that, given the talents of those involved in front and behind the camera, feels like a missed opportunity.

It starts so well, a bank heist that wastes no time in picking up pace delivered with skill and dexterity; but what unfolds after this, bar another couple of well-realised heist sequences, is a rather rote and lifeless story that not even this stellar cast can rescue.

Given the ensemble nature of the film, there's a raft of performances, some of which are merely extended cameos with little or no substance (Norman Reedus, Gal Gadot), and some of which just fail to land.

The problem is we've seen these actors in these situations before, the casting feeling predictable, and even if the likes of Chiwetel Ejiofor, Casey Affleck, Anthony Mackie, Woody Harrelson and Aaron Paul offer up decent turns, there's nothing here that's new or different (Paul in particular is merely channelling his *Breaking Bad* character without the wit).

Even those who are playing against type to a degree, like Kate Winslet's Russian mafia boss, don't really resonate, feeling a little too arch and trying too hard. With so many characters, there's not one performance that

stands out, hardly a criticism of an ensemble, but there's nothing overly memorable to see either.

John Hillcoat has delivered a pretty solid CV thus far in his career, but this is a film that is oddly lacking in his distinctive visual sense and tone. While the film shares the bleakness that has been a key component of his work so far (there are very few smiles cracked in this film), it doesn't feel like a John Hillcoat film.

Instead, it draws its inspiration seemingly from no end of better films that skirt around the same subject matter, whether it's *Training Day* or any of David Ayer's Los Angeles-set police films like *Harsh Times*, *End of Watch* or *Street Kings*.

Six years ago, this script was included in 'The Black List', Hollywood's list of the best unmade scripts. You can only think that its journey from page to screen was not as was intended, as it seems hard to believe that something that sticks so close to what has gone before in terms of this genre would be given such high praise.

While the initial concept is interesting in itself (the murder of a

policeman, means that all available police would chase down the perpetrator, meaning a window of time for a heist to take place), it hasn't been fully realised into a film with any great depth. As a result, *Triple 9* makes for a thankless film.

VERDICT: Given the raft of talent, *Triple 9* should be a coruscating and hard-hitting thriller.

In actuality, it's a film that feels all too predictable, with cardboard cut-out characters brought to life by actors who try

their best but just end up playing to type. John Hillcoat's direction lacks his distinctive mark, and overall this is a film that just feels lacklustre.

Disappointing.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Heat* (1995), *Training Day* (2001).

MP welcomes roll-out of universal credit

VALE MP Alun Cairns has welcomed the introduction of Universal Credit to the area this week as part of Government welfare reforms.

The new benefit has been trialled across Wales and the rest of the UK and is now in place for claimants locally.

The MP recently visited a job centre in

Bridgend to meet staff and claimants to learn more about the plans.

He said: "I am very pleased that Universal Credit has now been introduced in Barry and the rest of the Vale."

"Universal Credit is a revolution in welfare - a system that, for the first time, supports people both in and out of work."

"Already, people across the country are benefiting from the greater flexibility that Universal Credit provides," he claimed.

Mayors' get together!



The Vale youth mayor Daniel Marshall (a pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School), the Vale Mayor, and deputy youth mayor Bronwen Lloyd (a pupil at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg).

THE Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Fred Johnson, recently welcomed the Youth Mayor, Daniel Marshall, and deputy Youth mayor, Bronwen Lloyd, to the Mayor's parlour for an informal meeting.

Coun Johnson said he enjoyed a "congenial discussion" about his ceremonial and charitable role, and gained further insight into the role of the youth mayors, and youth cabinet.

He invited them to future civic events and visits.



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Community libraries, and the battle over the Barry boundary...

I WOULD like to use my February column to publicly offer my sincere thanks to those community groups in Dinas Powys, Sully, Wenvoe, St Athan and Rhosoe, who have come forward and worked with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to develop business cases that could secure the future of their local libraries.

The council has been working with these groups since May 2015 to help them prepare to take over the running of their local libraries. Their enthusiasm throughout the process has been a significant factor in driving the project forward – and it is due largely to their energy and commitment that we are now at a point where the legal agreements to transfer the libraries to their community can be drawn up.

It has been nearly two years since the Vale of Glamorgan Council agreed the strategy to establish a sustainable library service for the county.

A great deal of work has been undertaken during this time to make sure that not only are these five libraries transferred to the right groups within the community, but also that these groups are in a position to develop the libraries to cater to the specific needs of their communities.

For the last eight months, we have been working with the five groups to help them develop their plans for the libraries and have provided them with both training and support.

If the transfer of the libraries is now able to go ahead, as everyone involved intends, the council will support them by spending up to £100,000 on upgrading the five buildings and helping the five community groups to begin running them for

VIEW FROM THE VALE



by Coun
**NEIL
MOORE**
Leader of
the Vale of
Glamorgan
Council

themselves.

We will also continue to provide support to them as agreed. My cabinet colleagues and I have no doubt that these groups will prove to be excellent custodians of these much valued assets and we look forward to working with them for many years to come.

Much negative comment has been made about our decision to look for these alternative community facilitators and in this case maintain and safeguard these Vale libraries, but I feel I must reiterate one key point that my cabinet colleagues and I have made many times.

It has never been our desire, or that of the council, to see libraries in the Vale of Glamorgan close altogether.

Regrettably, the stark reality was (and is) that we could not and cannot continue to provide the same level of service as we did in the past, while facing the level and magnitude of the funding cuts imposed on the council by central Government.

It was clear then, and it is even more evident today, that we cannot continue to support every facility in the same way that we have in the past.

Therefore, we will continue to look at services that may be able to be adapted, changed or provided in a different way and will work with other partners to keep services operating, albeit in a different way.

We will have to continue to adopt these practices in the coming years, as our resources diminish.

We will also continue to commit time and

effort in finding a way to keep services operating as we have with our libraries. So, once again, I would sincerely thank those who have helped in achieving this goal.

Weycock Cross

FEBRUARY has also seen the fruition of another long-running political commitment on behalf of this administration to prevent the building of hundreds of houses at Weycock Cross and Walters Farm in Barry.

Nearly three years after the initial planning application for up to 200 houses at Weycock Cross was rejected by the Vale Council, I was delighted to receive, earlier this month, the decision of the independent Planning Inspector who had dismissed the subsequent appeal brought by the housing developer.

I was equally glad when a little over a week later a separate planning appeal, brought by the developer of an additional 200 houses on the neighbouring Walters Farm site, which had also been rejected by the council, was dropped.

This also comes after the nearby area of woodland and open land became protected by being designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

This appeal decision confirms and vindicates our stance that the settlement boundary of Barry should not be encroached upon and protects the area around Weycock Cross.

This administration could not have made any

clearer its opposition to the building of houses at these sites and that is why we took them out of the previous council's draft LDP.

We have always maintained that while there can be no argument that the Vale of Glamorgan needs more homes to meet the needs of families and to fuel the area's on-going regeneration, there is no justification for extending the settlement boundary of Barry.

While on the subject of this administration's commitments, I would like to make it clear that, unlike our political opponents, we do not claim things we have not achieved.

I am sure others will claim the above result at Weycock Cross was down to them, but clearly it was down to the council's stance in rejecting the plans.

I, therefore, find it regrettable that our MP (as an example) also claims to have regenerated the town and Barry Island, when in fact he has not.

Perhaps if he continues to make such claims and does so again, he can explain exactly how it was done?

I'd certainly be interested.

Fantastic job by staff

I'd like to close my column with another thank you – this time to the staff working in the council's highways team who did a fantastic job to keep the Vale moving during this month's storms.

The team cleared no fewer than 28 fallen trees and branches in one day alone, as they responded to call-outs from Wenvoe to Llandow and many places in between.

As always, they did a wonderful job... let's hope their emergency response skills aren't called upon again anytime soon – but if they are, we know they will do as good a job again!

Thank you, on behalf of all of us.

An Island talk grips members

DESPITE the bad weather, February's monthly meeting of Barry Friends and Neighbours at Beryl Road Pioneer Hall was attended by some 50 members including a few new ones, who were made welcome.

Peter Sampson from Flat Holm Society gave an interesting and amusing talk, including a slide show which showed

the island at various seasons through the year.

He kept the group engrossed throughout the talk and answered questions.

Members are looking forward to the March meeting, which will be an Easter party with entertainment from Barry Male Voice Choir and Easter bonnet competition; contact 01446 400044 for further information.

GF

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Rollers return home with a bronze medal!



Skaters Amber Ivins and Carleigh Griffiths (above) won bronze in the novice duo event.

CARDIFF City Artistic Roller Skating Club entered its first competition of the year last weekend (February 20-21), organised by The Federation of Artistic Roller Skating at The Dolphin Leisure Centre, Haywards Heath.

It was a great weekend and our skaters put on a fine display at novice level. The skaters worked hard in training and also fund raising to help with costs for their travel.

We were also fortunate to have Strachan Sports Travel organise and sponsor the skaters and supporters with some of the travel arrangements.

Operations manager, Julie Whittingham, also coach at the club, has been involved in artistic roller skating for many years.

Four girls, Charleigh Griffiths, Amber Ivins, Jennifer O'Keefe and Bethan Jones, represented Cardiff and we were extremely proud to gain bronze in the novice duo event.

Cardiff City Rollers ARSC is south Wales' newest artistic roller skating club. It is a non-profit club, run by volunteer coaches and parents of the skaters.

A new beginners' group is open throughout February and March for new membership.

Sessions are every Tuesday (7pm-9pm) at Penarth Leisure Centre. We are inclusive of disabilities and have no age limits. It's a great family activity; children can learn as young as two years old.

Skates can be hired for use in these sessions.

For more information, see cardiffcityrollers@outlook.com.

TARA IVINS,
(Head coach).

WILL THE BEACH HUTS BE PUT OUT TO TENDER?



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Vale cabinet member Gwyn John, explained: "The new beach huts proved to be very popular last summer, especially as the season progressed and the buzz around the new-look Barry Island grew."

"Our goal remains for the huts to be enjoyed by as many visitors to the resort as possible. We also need to ensure that the huts generate enough money to cover their ongoing maintenance. There are a number of options for how best we could do this and the discussions at cabinet and scrutiny over the coming weeks will allow us to determine which is best for Barry Island."

The Island attracts 360,000 visitors each year, and has a total economic impact of £12.7 million. A total of 233 beach hut bookings have been made since Easter 2015, generating over £8,000 of income.

The Vale Council believes that as the operating costs of a third party would be lower, and marketing of the huts could be combined with other attractions, there could be strong interest in

managing them. A new operator would be responsible for the day to day management of the beach huts, including cleaning, and would be able to vary the hire cost throughout the year. The council would retain control over the maximum rental charges, opening hours, and conditions of use.

Regional Conservative AM Andrew RT Davies said 233 bookings since last Easter represented "poor management".

He went on: "This white elephant of an investment was heralded by the Labour-run council as the saviour of the Island, with one cabinet member believing the rental income from the beach huts would be enough to increase the vitality of the island and secure its future regeneration."

"However, with poor booking numbers and the huts generating a loss to the taxpayer of £250, the idea these huts would generate vast income to benefit the island – acting as some sort of silver bullet for the island – has been proved simply incorrect as many local businesses predicted

at the time." He added that the council should focus on local businesses to ensure a prosperous long-term future.

Barry resident Jonathan Osborne contacted The GEM to suggest there was another way the council could get value for money from the huts.

He said: "The council is hoping to place the beach huts out to tender, parcelling them together in a package with the other activities on the Prom, which is bound to narrow interest from the private sector."

"Is there really a need to be rushing this decision through? Why not keep them running as they are and let schools and community groups use the empty ones for free?"

"At least the taxpayer will get some value from this, instead of some commercial organisation profiteering off the back of us taxpayers."

The full text of Mr Osborne's letter to The GEM can be seen on page 2.

Barry RFC hope for action this weekend

YET again, Barry RFC were unable to play their league fixture against Clwb Rygbi last Saturday, due to the dangerous state of the ground following the recent heavy rain.

This now means that we have five games to catch up on and the planned season end of April 9 has now been extended to May 7, and the

following rearranged fixtures are shown below for your diaries: April 16 – Porth (away); April 23 – Gwentyfred (home); May 7 – Dinas Powys (home).

The winning numbers for the Mega Lottery last Saturday were 12, 13, 14 and 22 and there were no winners, so this week's jackpot stands at £1325.

AJ

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The Glamorgan GEM Food For Thought....

Eating out with children - AN EXPERT ADVISES

EATING out with kids – is it all too much of a hassle? Lisa Salmon of the Press Association has some useful tips...

When you take the kids out for a meal, you're a lucky – and unusual – parent if they plump for a dish other than the standard favourites of either chicken nuggets and chips or pizza.

Research suggests that two thirds of children always order the same thing in restaurants – behaviour unwittingly fuelled by their parents, as more than a third (37 per cent) of mums and dads admit to 'habit eating' by ordering the same meal when dining out.

The research, by the Japanese restaurant chain YO! Sushi, found that the top five meal choices for primary school-age children are, unsurprisingly:

1. Chicken Nuggets and Chips.
2. Pizza.
3. Pasta.
4. Fish and Chips.
5. Burgers.

But more than two thirds of parents admit they'd like their child to have a broader food repertoire and be more adventurous with what they eat.

Clinical psychologist Dr Gillian Harris of Birmingham University, an expert in food refusal in children, points out that children like chicken nuggets and chips because the meal tends to look the same every time, with a manageable texture, while pizza is often seen as a treat food.

"If something is slightly restricted or is deemed a grown-up food, kids are more likely to eat it," she says.

"Parents have a tendency to go out and order the same thing in restaurants. They need to be a bit braver, to set their children a good example, so it's more likely that they too will try something different."

However, even if parents do try to vary their own choices in restaurants, the research revealed that a quarter of them wouldn't let their children try a new dish when eating out if they were unsure their child would like it, with 45 per cent stating

that they'd rather their kids chose something they'll definitely eat.

And this unwillingness to let children try new foods is reflected in many parents' lack of persistence when it comes to introducing different foods at home.

The survey revealed that if a child refuses a particular food, more than two thirds of parents would only sometimes try to introduce it again. Nearly half would only encourage a child to try a new food three to five times, and a third would just try once or twice before giving up.

Dr Harris, who helps run the Birmingham Food Refusal Service, says: "Clinical research has shown that it can take up to 10 tastes for a new food to be accepted by a child.

"I would recommend persevering with one or two foods at a time and remember that the second taste of a new food may be the hardest of all, as your child will have formed an opinion that they don't like the food."

She says that genetic factors play a part in some children's dislike of different tastes and food textures, explaining: "Mainly it's a sensory hypersensitivity which genetically predetermines children, although some will be more difficult than others.

"It can be overcome to some extent, although a lot of the texture problems can't."

But she warns: "If you threaten a child, stand in front of them and shout or make them sit there until they eat their food, you'll just make it worse."

Dr Harris advises that the best way to get children to be adventurous with food is by getting them used to the sight and texture of different foods as early as possible – preferably within the first year of life.

That way, they'll see foods as 'safe', and are more likely to eat them.

She says parents should give children what they want them to eat, rather than relying on jars of baby and toddler food, and stresses: "You've got to eat with the child – they should be watching you eat."

"And if you want them to try something they don't normally try, don't put a large plateful in front of them, but let them take it off your plate, let them taste it."

"You've got to keep going with it – just half a teaspoon at a time, and the child will get used to it."

Dr Harris and colleagues are running workshops around the country designed to help parents understand why their children refuse food. For more information, visit www.foodrefusal.co.uk

GEM READERS' LETTERS EXTRA

'Vale Council doing a good job with house-building plans'

AFTER many years of searching for a home in Cowbridge, then following the Darren Farm residential-led application, I really cannot understand why the objectors are so uncaring.

I also agree with The GEM letter on January 28, that the Vale Council is doing a very good job in recognising the urgency to commence a house-building programme.

In comparing local councils, many have not put forward a Local Development Plan; our Vale Council has and, furthermore, recognises the urgency to commence a house-building programme.

People are suffering because of the housing crisis created through the lack of new homes – much of it brought about by 'Not In My Back Yard' objectors.

There are many things that need to be done to get people into homes; I have always been a Conservative, but recognise it is this council that is moving ahead – they are getting on with building homes.

In years to come, we will be judged upon whether we built houses and also their quality and design; it is expected the Darren Farm location will enable this,

especially as it will have good commuter links with the new exit off the A48.

The community of Cowbridge is now mainly based upon the elderly; this development will enable residents to downsize, to permit single-floor accommodation, eg bungalows, and will also permit young families to stay or return to the community.

The Darren Farm development is about building a community. We expect our councils to deliver for the community, there is a lack of affordable/rented homes in rural areas, and people are being forced into expensive, private-rented accommodation, with poor quality homes – often overcrowded. It's totally unacceptable in particular when trying to understand why the Darren Farm objectors are so uncaring.

I read in The GEM another objector insinuate skulduggery by council planners; it is on record that Darren Farm objectors supported applications for a large-scale development of Llandow industrial park for housing, and also for a bypass at Llyswoorney, as part of a smoke and mirrors plan to de-emphasise a need for housing at Darren Farm.

They now have the audacity to appeal for money to pay for a

barrister to oppose the application at Darren Farm so the provision of the much-needed new link road and new school would be uneconomic.

Their aim is to wreck the generous agreement for the developer to fund the cost of the new road and school, plus provide £4 million for the education budget and £1 million for footpaths; without this sponsorship the cost becomes a burden for the general public, so no development.

Then we have another objector (GEM letter, February 4) asking also for a swimming pool as atonement. Where is the commonsense? Perhaps all Cowbridge residents should ask for a Rolex watch to let the development progress.

The reality is that I and many other hardworking and respectable families, are desperate for a home – in particular, if we can remain in our place of birth and near our families in Cowbridge.

Then we have the objectors, a number of whom think that by stopping development, it will push property prices up, and readily forget how they were helped early in life by a caring society.

Alun Davies, Cowbridge.

Plaid pledge on NHS funding

ALTHOUGH our Welsh NHS staff do their best, we know that, after 17 years of Labour health ministers, Wales has one of the lowest numbers of doctors per head in Europe, that waiting times for treatment are longer than other parts of the UK and that ambulance arrival times are longer than they should be.

However, the chaos of the junior doctors' strike and privatisation of NHS services across the border in England give us an idea of what would happen if the Tories were ever in charge here in Wales.

As a member of the Vale Council's social care and health committee, I've heard about the difficulties faced by mental health services in Wales and about delays in transferring loved ones from hospital back to their homes and communities.

That's why I'm pleased Plaid Cymru has pledged to ring-fence an extra £1 billion for the Welsh NHS over the next five years, if elected.

Coun Ian Johnson, Plaid Cymru Assembly candidate for the Vale.

'Is the Wenvoe cycleway inspired by E.T.?' READER

A total of £350,000 of Welsh

Government money has been spent on a shared foot and cycleway to enable children to cycle safely and comfortably along Port Road at Wenvoe.

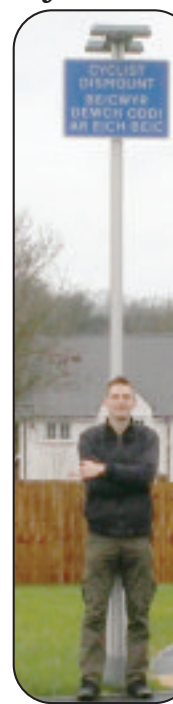
It is uncomfortably close to fast, heavy traffic with insufficient protection for vulnerable people from the dangers.

Money has also been spent on unnecessary signage.

Perhaps, the highway engineers' idea of children on a bicycle comes from the bicycle flying scene in the movie *ET*, because they have installed illuminated signage four metres high!

While defying common sense, they have squandered the money of hard working people on unnecessary signage inappropriately lit and too high for most to notice.

Coun Gwyn John and the cabinet collectively have failed yet again to hold the officers to account. Coun Neil Moore must accept his responsibility. There is a strange overlap in responsibility of Coun Gwyn John, and neither councillor seems to take responsibility for the mistakes that are being



Ian Perry with the sign in question.

made.

The money spent on this signage should not come from taxpayers, but the pockets of those responsible for this waste.

We need competent people with an interest in improving the Vale and a passion for excellence. In addition, we need a restructuring of the highways department with the

needs of people put ahead of the careers of officers.

Ian Perry, Cardiff

The GEM put the points Mr Perry outlined to the Vale Council, and Emma Reed, the head of visible services & transport, responded:

"Mr Perry has contacted the council's highways team to ask questions about shared foot and cycleway schemes in the past."

"Unfortunately he has not yet taken up the offer of our highways and engineering manager to meet in order to discuss the issue in detail."

"As the Vale Council's head of visible services and transport, and the member of staff responsible for both active travel and works to improve the Vale's highways network, I would like to remind Mr Perry that the offer still stands."

"Indeed my colleagues and I would welcome the opportunity to meet with him so that we can address his concerns and explain the benefit that this and other active travel schemes will have."

"In the meantime I would like to reassure Mr Perry, and all readers of The GEM, that none of the works currently under way on Port Road will be signed off by the Vale Council until they are deemed acceptable by our engineers."

"I look forward to meeting Mr Perry in the near future."

The STAR INN Wick



Mothers March 6th Day

SUNDAY LUNCH

SET MENU

Homemade soup of the day
Homemade Pate
Prawn Cocktail

MAINS

Roast Beef
Roast Pork
Breast of Chicken

All served with roast and boiled potatoes, a selection of fresh vegetables and a Yorkshire pudding. (Please ask for vegetarian option)

DESSERTS

Please see the desserts board or ask a member of the team

1 Course (Beef/Pork/Chicken) £8.95 • Lamb £9.95
2 Courses (Beef/Pork/Chicken) • Lamb £12.95
3 Courses (Beef/Pork/Chicken) £32.95 • Lamb £14.95

ALTERNATIVELY

Homemade Pie of the day - £10.95
In-house Beer Battered Cod - £9.50



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The FONTYGARY INN



6th March

Mother's Day

3 Courses for £12.95

Booking essential

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SUNDAY
LUNCH
served 12-4pm**

**Thursday
Night is
CURRY NIGHT
Get £2 off all home
made curry meals**

**3 Course
LUNCH
served 12-3pm
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Served Saturday
& Sunday
10am - 12noon**

**Live
ENTERTAINMENT
every Friday and
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from March
onwards**

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25th-28th March**

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**4 Wick Road,
Ewenny, CF35 5BL
Tel 01656 658388**

Lifeguard teams shine at championships!



FOLLOWING a great Welsh Stillwaters Championships for the Rhose Nipper Team only a few weeks earlier, over the weekend of January 30-31 it was the Junior, Senior and Masters teams turn to compete at Cardiff International Pool.

With a strong turnout from the Rhose team, particularly from the Junior section the whole team were keen to build on their successes from the year before.

The Junior team, managed by co-ordinator Steve Baker, put in some very impressive performances winning a number of medals in the relay and pair events including some golds, with many of the competitors also achieving personal bests in their individual races.

Likewise the Senior and Masters teams, did very well in both the individual and team events with Kirby, Jon and Dom picking up medals in their individual races.

With two days of events many family members gave up their weekend not only to support the teams but also to undertake time-keeping and other duties - a big thanks to all involved.

The teams finished the competition in the following places with individual medal winners listed below. Junior team second, Seniors sixth and Masters seventh place overall - well done everyone!

INDIVIDUAL MEDAL WINNERS

Kirby Redrup - bronze rescue medley, Jon Foster - silver manikin tow with fins, silver manikin carry with fins, bronze rescue medley, Dominic Lee - bronze manikin tow with fins.

JF

Dinas ladies nominated for a top team award



DINAS POWYS Lawn Tennis Club was delighted to be nominated for Tennis Wales' Club Team of the Year with the ladies' vets third team taking on stiff competition from Cardiff and Rhiwbina.

The award went to Cardiff's men's first team which has not lost a match for four years.

The Dinas team represented a wide variety of ages from players in their 40s, 50s, 60s and 70s. Last season they won their winter league by winning every event and barely losing a set.

They turned out for match practice under the floodlights throughout

the winter months, playing in all weathers, including a match when the drinks froze on the side of the court!

Some players had only taken up tennis in their 40s and made tremendous progress to secure team places and to become regular match players.

They were promoted at the end of the season, and are currently second in their new division.

The team members were Shirley Howman (c), Phil Stott, Jen Thomas, Lisa Driscoll, Viv Duckers, Julie Claypole, and Marion Curtis.

SH

Pony club holds 'have-a-go' day

GLAMORGAN Pony Club recently held a dressage competition at Alps Park, by permission of Nick Coles and Richard Conway.

It was a 'have a go' day for members and others. The sun shone and the atmosphere was relaxed.

It was good to see so many members who may not always enjoy dressage having a go and doing very well. The judge Beth Edwards was very complimentary about the standard of riding and level of turnout throughout the

day, from the walk trot test to the novice test.

This was the first of a series of three dressage days organised by Sarah Fenner. The next date is Saturday, March 12 and there will be an added class for hunting people who want to have a go at dressage!

For more information, call Sarah on 07513 141 698. The schedule will shortly be put onto the Glamorgan PC Facebook page.

To know more about Glamorgan Pony Club, contact Annie Whitehouse 07779 028638, or Sian Dix 07980 356801.



We won't make selling your house a secret, we will tell everyone.



PROPERTIES REQUIRED for Waiting Buyers

LLANTWIT MAJOR	BRIDGEND	LLANTWIT MAJOR	RHOOSE	BARRY	LLANTWIT MAJOR
£37,500 Ham Manor Park, CF61 1BH TWO BEDROOMS, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, OVER 80S ONLY, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, PRIVATE GARDEN, TOTAL LENGTH 7.46 WIDTH 3.56	£119,995 Llangewydd Road, CF31 4JT FREEHOLD THREE BEDROOMS, CONSERVATORY UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, NO ON GOING CHAIN	£140,000 Maes Illtud, CF61 2SD TWO BEDROOM, UPVC WINDOWS, GAS CENTRAL HEATING, FREEHOLD, OFF ROAD PARKING	£339,950 Cilgalt Y Meillion, CF62 3LH FIVE BEDROOM DETACHED, VERY LARGE GARDEN, LARGE GARDEN, TWO ENSUITES.	£165,000 Buttrills Road, CF62 8EG THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTY, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS, LARGE GARDENS IN NEED OF UPDATING, NO FORWARD CHAIN	£234,995 Cardigan Crescent, CF61 2GP FOUR BEDROOM, EXTENDED PROPERTY, PARKING AND GARAGE, REAR GARDEN
LLANTWIT MAJOR	LLANTWIT MAJOR	LLANTWIT MAJOR	LLANTWIT MAJOR	ST DONATS	LLANMAES
£269,000 Heol Merioneth, CF61 2GS FREEHOLD, DETACHED, FOUR BEDROOMS, UPVC GAS CENTRAL HEATING, DOUBLE GARAGE	£270,000 Eagleswell Road, CF61 2UG FREEHOLD, THREE/FOUR BEDROOMS, WELL KEPT GARDENS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS	£310,000 Boverton Brook, CF61 1YG EXTENDED FOUR/FIVE BEDROOMS, FREEHOLD UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, GARAGE	£369,995 Boverton Brook, CF61 1YH FOUR BEDROOMS, DESIGNER PROPERTY, HIGH STANDARD FINISH, VIEWING RECOMMENDED	£399,900 Dimlands Road, CF61 1ZB DETACHED BARN CONVERSION, THREE BEDROOMS, GARDEN WITH OUTLOOK, GAS CENTRAL HEATING	£449,000 Llanmaes, CF61 2XR FOUR/FIVE BEDROOM, FOUR LIVING ROOMS, SWIMMING POOL, UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, FREEHOLD, DOUBLE GARAGE

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01656 655936.**

**105 Talbot Road,
Talbot Green,
CF72 8AE.
01443 222420.**

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D919.

● £2,000: 555666.
● The rollover, which is currently £500, was not won this week.
● £10: 600741, 370939, 568007, 849511, 281742, 383169, 955210, 208761, 107922, 539054, 275282, 523491, 424612, 425782, 855871, 747554, 762390, 1620.
● £5: 569018, 480508, 544484, 346909, 593166, 146160, 412754, 431776, 748430, 550255, 308971, 187457, 566359.

462381, 279768, 960713, 259022, 862878, 321416, 549705, 485975, 837270, 647273, 749857, 713457, 663915, 675934, 604734, 594701, 267178, 137379, 733272, 689020, 344706, 964101, 848623, 294744, 391874, 508818, 240651, 555064, 852893, 773201, 313165, 279844, 853509, 525270, 328600, 638968, 469562, 797447, 719143, 855685, 442264, 389178, 1717, 1331443, 1984670, 1337357, 1984622, 5385, 5111

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

St David's Day Carers' Cafe

CARERS in the Vale and Cardiff are being invited to a special St David's Day Carers' Café on Tuesday, March 1.

The carers' cafés are held twice a month at the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale hospice in Penarth, providing an informal environment for carers to meet and discuss their caring role over afternoon tea.

The St David's Day carers' café, held between 2pm and 4pm will see visitors enjoy a warm Welsh welcome, patriotic wall and table decorations and Welsh cakes.

For more information, contact Sarah Johnson on 02920 426023 or email sarah.johnson@mariecurie.org.uk.

Women's World Day of Prayer

A SERVICE will be held in the United Reform Church, Westgate, Cowbridge (opposite the police station) on Friday, March 4 at 1.30pm when the theme will be 'Praying for Cuba - Receive children, Receive Me.'

THE BARRY GIRL WHO WANTS TO BUY YOUR HOME...

WHEN people in Barry need to sell their home quickly, they call Rachael - that's because Rachael runs Barry Home Buyers - a local company which buys any property in any condition.

"People come to us for many reasons," explains Rachael. "Some are being threatened with repossession, some have a property they can't sell, some just want to sell quickly."

"Whatever the reason, and whatever the property, we help them."

Rachael has bought hundreds of homes over the years, from ten-bedroom mansions to one-bedroom flats, and offers a cast-iron guarantee - the price she offers is the price she pays.

This is inevitably lower than the market price, but no estate agents are involved and no legal fees are payable - Barry Home Buyers takes care of everything.

Rachael believes trust is the main reason people come to her:

"We are 100 per cent honest with all our clients, so they trust us to deliver," she says.

"We offer a guaranteed price and, if it's accepted, we drive the process through very quickly, sometimes within two weeks."

If you need to sell your home, call Barry Home Buyers on 01446 349 001 for a free, no-obligation valuation.

Or go to www.barryhomebuyers.com/contact.

Go to the **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...

www.barry-today.co.uk
www.cowbridge-today.co.uk
www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

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CALL 01446 349 001 NOW FOR A FREE, NO-OBLIGATION VALUATION

www.barryhomebuyers.com

Low cost home ownership opportunity Ocean View, Ogmore by Sea



Six, two-bedroom houses for sale - £112,000 (70% of market value)

This is a fantastic opportunity to buy a new build property in a desirable location at an affordable price.

Eligible applicants will:

- have a local connection to Ogmore by Sea, as per the local lettings and sales policy;
- be first time buyers;
- be able to raise a mortgage for the value of the property;
- have access to a deposit; usually five to 15% of the property value; and
- not exceed the maximum household income of £65,000 for a single applicant or £75,000 for a joint application.

Eligibility criteria

Eligibility criteria are explained in the frequently asked questions available on the Council web site.

Applications

- If you are interested in purchasing this property read the advert and complete the application form, available on the Council web site.
- Search 'Affordable Housing' then 'Ocean View'.
- Remember to explain clearly how you meet the criteria in your application form.
- Deadline for expressions of interest: 17 March 2016.

Priority will be given to applicants who meet the criteria explained in the local lettings policy.

Contact us by telephone on (01446) 709237 or by e-mail at housingstrategy@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.



Are you a first time buyer?
Want to own your own home?
Unable to afford market prices?
Look no further - home ownership could be within reach.

Register with Aspire to Own to receive information about other Low Cost Home Ownership opportunities.



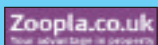
Rented properties

Bidding for the following rented properties will be advertised later in the year.

- Six, one-bedroom apartments
- Three, two-bedroom apartments
- Two, two-bedroom houses
- Two, three-bedroom houses
- Two, four-bedroom houses



1 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AA

Sales: 01446 736888
Lettings: 01446 734668www.homesonview.co.uk
www.ninaestateagents.co.ukwebsite:
www.ninaestateagents.co.uk
email:
enquiries@ninaestateagents.co.uk

NEW



MARINE DRIVE, BARRY

- MODERN SEMI DETACHED DWELLING
- LIVING ROOM DINING ROOM
- STUDY
- W.C. CLOAKROOM
- FOUR BEDROOMS MASTER EN-SUITE
- DOUBLE GARAGE DRIVEWAY
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- NO CHAIN
- EPC = D

£394,950

NEW



THE GRANARY, PENMARK

- IMMACULATE PRESENTATION
- SPACIOUS THROUGHOUT
- THREE REAR ROOMS
- FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS (MASTER ENSUITE)
- PRIVATELY ENCLOSED BY GATES
- ENCLOSED COURTYARD GARDEN
- DOUBLE GARAGE/PARKING
- NO CHAIN
- ER = E

£434,950

NEW



MIN-Y-MOR, BARRY

- SPACIOUS 12'x12' DORMA BUNGALOW
- COLD KIPAP VIEW
- MODERN LIVING ROOM
- U. ROOM CONSERVATORY
- STUDY, SEP. W.C. BATHROOM
- 1ST FLR TWO FURTHER BEDROOMS
- WITH ENSUITE W.C. CLOAK
- NO CHAIN/DRIVEWAY
- ER = D

£269,950

NEW



GWENNOL Y MOR, BARRY

- MODERN SEMI DETACHED
- W.C. CLOAK LIVING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- 1ST FLR TWO BEDROOMS (MASTER ENSUITE)
- FAMIL BATHROOM
- 2ND FLR THIRD BEDROOM (EN-SUITE)
- GARAGE/DRIVEWAY
- ER = C

£199,950

NEW



GWENNOL Y MOR, BARRY

- MODERN LIVING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN W.C. CLOAK
- 1ST FLR CONSERVATORY
- SITTING RM (PART CONVERTED GARAGE)
- TWO BEDROOMS (EN-SUITE)
- DRIVEWAY/PARKING
- SMALL STORAGE AREA TO FRONT GARAGE
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- IMMACULATE PRESENTATION
- ER = D

£204,950

NEW



COIGNE TERRACE, BARRY

- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN/UTILITY AREA
- TWO BEDROOMS/FAMILY BATHROOM
- SPACE SAVING STAIRS TO ATTIC/HOBBY AREA
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- NEAR ALL AMENITIES
- ER = D

£116,950

NEW



GEORGE STREET, BARRY

- TRADITIONAL MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOM
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- GROUND FLOOR BATHROOM
- TOWN CENTRE LOCATION
- UPVVC DG & GCH
- NO CHAIN
- ER = D

£119,999

NEW



CASTELLAND STREET, BARRY

- BAY FRONTED TRADITIONAL
- THROUGH LIVING/DINING ROOM
- EXTENDED 17FT KITCHEN
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- SPIRAL STAIRCASE RISING TO ATTIC AREA
- PATIO GARDEN - LANE ACCESS
- IMMACULATE PRESENTATION
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL

£134,950

NEW



CWLWM CARIAD, BARRY

- MID LINKED MODERN
- W.C. CLOAKROOM
- THROUGH LIVING/DINING ROOM
- REPLACEMENT 2014 KITCHEN
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FAMIL BATHROOM
- DRIVEWAY/PARKING
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- ER = C

£139,950

NEW



FONMON PARK ROAD, RHOSCE

- 1970'S BUILT SEMI DETACHED
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- REPLACEMENT FITTED KITCHEN (INTEGRATED APPLIANCES)
- THREE BEDROOMS/FAMIL BATHROOM
- ENCLOSED GARDEN
- GARAGE/SIDE ACCESS
- NO CHAIN
- EPC = C

£144,950

NEW



GWENNOL Y MOR, BARRY

- MODERN MID LINKED
- END OF TERRACE
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- TWO BEDROOMS
- EN-SUITE TO MASTER
- ENCLOSED GARDEN
- GARAGE IN BLOCK
- PARKING
- ER = C

£149,950

NEW



ST. BRANNOCKS CLOSE BARRY

- END OF LINK
- WELL PRESENTED THROUGHOUT
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- TWO BEDROOMS (PREVIOUSLY THREE)
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- GARAGE/PARKING IN BLOCK
- DOUBLE SAG POSITION
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- ER = D

£157,950

NEW



OXFORD STREET, BARRY

- BAY FRONTED MID TERRACE
- SPACIOUS LIVING ACCOMMODATION
- 4 BEDROOMS
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM
- UPVVC DG & COMBI BOILER
- MINUTES WALK TO PORTHCEIRI PARK, ROMILLY SCHOOLS & SHOPS
- ER = D

£174,950

NEW



COLCOT ROAD, BARRY

- BAY FRONTED
- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING ROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- UTILITY ROOM/SUN ROOM
- 1ST FLR TWO BEDROOMS (EN-SUITE)
- 2ND FLR TWO BEDROOMS
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- DRIVEWAY
- NO CHAIN
- ER = C

£320,950

NEW



BARRY ROAD, BARRY

- TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- REPLACEMENT 2014 KITCHEN
- REPLACEMENT SHOWER-ROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS
- 2014 GAS BOILER
- IMMACULATE PRESENTATION
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- ER = E

£119,950

NEW



COLCOT ROAD, BARRY

- BAY FRONTED TRADITIONAL
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- SUN LOUNGE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- REPLACEMENT SHOWER ROOM
- DRIVEWAY/GARAGE
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- NO CHAIN
- EPC = TBA

£204,950

NEW PRICE



WESTON STREET, BARRY

- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING ROOM
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- GROUND FLR BATHROOM
- THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- TWO BEDROOMS
- UPVVC DG & GCH
- NO CHAIN
- EPC = E

£85,000

NEW PRICE



QUEEN STREET, BARRY

- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING/DINING ROOM
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- UPVVC DG-GCH VIA COMBI
- FITTED KITCHEN
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- AMIDST SHOPS, SCHOOLS
- VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- ER=D

£108,000

NEW PRICE



EVANS STREET, BARRY

- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING ROOM/DINING ROOM
- MODERN FITTED KITCHEN
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- UPVVC DG & GCH VIA COMBI
- VIEWING ESSENTIAL
- WELL PRESENTED
- ER = D

£114,950

NEW



PALMERSTON ROAD, BARRY

- BAY FRONTED
- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- LIVING ROOM
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST
- UTILITY ROOM/SUN ROOM
- 1ST FLR TWO BEDROOMS (EN-SUITE)
- 2ND FLR TWO BEDROOMS
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- DRIVEWAY
- NO CHAIN
- ER = D

£90,000

NEW



TYNEWYDD ROAD, BARRY

- TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED
- ORIGINAL FEATURES THROUGHOUT
- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM OPENING TO KITCHEN
- SITTING ROOM
- FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- SPACIOUS FAMILY BATHROOM
- SEA VIEWS FROM THE REAR
- LOW MAINTENANCE GARDEN
- ER=E

£239,950

NEW




TYNEWYDD ROAD, BARRY

- TRADITIONAL SEMI DETACHED
- LIVING ROOM
- DINING ROOM
- W.C. CLOAKROOM
- LUXURY BATHROOM WITH ROLL TOP BATH
- SEA VIEWS ACROSS BRISTOL CHANNEL
- THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- ATTIC/HOBBY ROOM
- VERY WELL PRESENTED
- ER=F

£239,950

NEW



SPENCER STREET BARRY

- MID TERRACED TRADITIONAL
- THROUGH LIVING ROOM
- GROUND FLR BATHROOM
- THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- PLACED BETWEEN RICHARD ST & EVANS ST
- AMIDST MAIN SHOPPING AREA
- EPC = E

£111,950

TO LET



HOLTON ROAD, BARRY

- TWO BEDROOM SECOND FLOOR PROPERTY
- RECENTLY REFURBISHED
- OPEN PLAN LOUNGE & KITCHEN
- ONE DOUBLE BEDROOM, ONE SINGLE BEDROOM
- BATHROOM
- UNFURNISHED
- NO PETS, NO SMOKERS, DSS CONSIDERED
- EPC - TO FOLLOW

£550 PCM

TO LET



ROMILLY ROAD, BARRY

- TWO BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
- LOUNGE
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- LARGE STORAGE AREA
- ACCESS TO REAR GARDEN
- NO PETS
- NO DSS
- NO SMOKERS

£550 PCM

TO LET



BROOK STREET, BARRY

- TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN WITH APPLIANCES
- EXCELLENT CONDITION
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- 5 MINS WALK TO TOWN CENTRE
- DESIGNATED PARKING TO REAR
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING UNFURNISHED
- NO PETS, NO SMOKERS, NO DSS
- EPC = C

£550 PCM

TO LET



CONWAY DRIVE, BARRY

- TWO BEDROOM DORMA BUNGALOW
- DRIVEWAY WITH SPACE FOR TWO CARS
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN
- KITCHEN
- SHIP'S CABIN & DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- NO PETS, NO SMOKERS, NO DSS EPC = C

£700 PCM

TO LET



VERE STREET, BARRY

- TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- WELL PRESENTED
- LOUNGE
- LARGE OPEN PLAN HALLWAY WITH SPACE FOR DINING TABLE & STORAGE
- KITCHEN
- ONE DOUBLE BEDROOM, ONE SINGLE BEDROOM
- NO PETS, NO SMOKERS, NO DSS
- EPC = E

£525 PCM

TO LET



BROAD STREET, BARRY

- FULLY FURNISHED
- ONE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR FLAT
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- DOUBLE BEDROOM
- BATHROOM
- SHARED LOW MAINTENANCE REAR GARDEN
- CLOSE TO LOCAL TRANSPORT LINKS
- NO PETS, NO SMOKERS, NO DSS EPC = F

£495 PCM

TO LET



SEA POINT, BARRY

- TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
- FANTASTIC UNINTERRUPTED SEA VIEWS
- RECENTLY REFURBISHED
- THROUGH LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN WITH BUILT IN OVEN & HOB
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- BATHROOM
- COMMUNAL PARKING
- NO PETS, NO SMOKERS, NO DSS

£595 PCM



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NEW



- Converted Chapel
- 4 bed detached
- 3 reception rooms
- Backing onto farmland

£525,000

MACKWORTH STREET, BRIDGEND



- Mid-terrace property
- 3 bedrooms
- Private garden to rear
- On street parking

£105,000

CLOS FFAWYDDEN, YSTRADOWEN



- 4 bedrooms
- 3 Reception rooms
- Detached double garage
- Large rear garden

£410,000

PENYLAN COURT, ST BRIDES MAJOR

NEW



- 4 bed detached property
- 3 reception rooms
- Detached garage
- Rear garden with open views

£400,000

MAES Y BRYN, COLWINSTON



- Semi detached house
- 3 bedrooms
- 2 reception rooms
- In need of total modernisation

£210,000

EWENNY ROAD, BRIDGEND



- Traditional semi detached house
- 3 bedrooms
- Extended and improved
- Well regarded location

£215,000

GROESWEN ROAD, CAERPHILLY



- Former Farmhouse
- 0.6 acres
- Agreed planning consent

£330,000

IVY COTTAGE, GILESTON

NEW PRICE



- Detached traditional cottage
- 2 double bedrooms
- Views across to Devon Coastline
- Garage and ample parking

£265,000

NEW BUNGALOW, ST NICHOLAS



- Standing in 1.07 acres
- 4 bedrooms
- 3 bathrooms
- Sought-after village

£735,000

MALLORY, LLANMAES



- Spacious detached house
- 4 bedrooms with potential to create a 5th
- Bathroom plus 2 showers
- Conservatory

£415,000

LLANGAIN, CARMARTHEN



- 34 acres agricultural land
- Useful farm buildings
- Equestrian potential

£250,000

AFON GARDENS, BRYNMYNEN



- Brand new Redrow property
- 4 bedroom detached
- Quality kitchen
- Last remaining plot

£234,995

WANTED

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THE SYCAMORES, LLSWORNEY



- 4 bed detached cottage
- 3 reception rooms
- Large gardens
- Detached garage

£500,000

CAERGYMRUG FARM, GARTH



- Farmhouse with 10.6 acres
- Planning consent
- Equestrian potential

£189,000

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LOCATION



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Sales Walker Road £115,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEMI DETACHED FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM CONSERVATORY CHANNEL VIEWS 	Sales Barry Road £80,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWO BEDROOMS 1ST FLOOR WELL PRESENTED CLOSE TO AMENITIES 	Sales St Brannocks Close £180,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS SEMI DETACHED OFF ROAD PARKING WELL PRESENTED 	Sales Paget Rd £85,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ONE BEDROOM ALLOCATED PARKING SEASIDE RESORT CLOSE TO AMENITIES 	Sales Powys View £105,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT TWO BEDROOMS DOUBLE GLAZED WELL PRESENTED COMMUNAL CARPARK
Sales George Street £105,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS TWO RECEPTION ROOMS CLOSE TO AMENITIES NO CHAIN TOWN CENTRE 	Sales Buttlee Court £90,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS CLOSE TO TOWN CENTRE CHANNEL VIEWS IDEAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY 	Sales Cwrt Edward £147,950 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWO BEDROOMS CONSERVATORY OFF ROAD PARKING WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT 	Sales Heol Corwigen £175,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS SEMI DETACHED CONSERVATORY OFF ROAD PARKING 	Sales Mimosa House £114,600 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT TWO PARKING SPACES EN SUITE NO CHAIN
Sales Glenbrook Drive £85,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ONE BEDROOM IDEAL STARTER HOME END OF LINK CORNER PLOT NO CHAIN 	Sales Weston Street £85,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWO BEDROOMS END OF TERRACE OFF ROAD PARKING NO CHAIN 	Sales Brookfield Avenue £142,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWO BEDROOMS WELL PRESENTED SEMI DETACHED OFF ROAD PARKING 	Sales Clos Cefni £212,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS CONSERVATORY INTEGRAL GARAGE NO CHAIN 	Sales Broad Street £175,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIVE BEDROOMS THREE STOREY ENCLOSED GARDEN WEST END LOCATION CLOSE TO AMENITIES
Sales Barry Road £140,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS SEMI DETACHED CLOSE TO TOWN CENTRE NO CHAIN 	Sales Tynewydd Road £250,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FOUR BEDROOMS THREE RECEPTION ROOMS EXTENDED FAMILY HOME DRIVEWAY AND GARAGE 	Sales Dovedale Street £130,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RECENTLY REFURBISHED THREE BEDROOMS ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN CLOSE TO TOWN CENTRE 	Sales Dylan Crescent £97,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEMI DETACHED THREE BEDROOMS CORNER PLOT NO CHAIN 	Sales Cadoc Crescent £130,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEMI DETACHED THREE BEDROOMS WELL PRESENTED ENCLOSED GARDENS OFF ROAD PARKING
Sales Whitefarm £135,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN OFF ROAD PARKING 	Sales Celtic Way, Rhooose £165,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS SEMI DETACHED DRIVEWAY AND GARAGE VIEWING ADVISED 	Sales Evelyn Street £129,995 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS TOWN CENTRE LOCATION BAY FRONTED CLOSE TO AMENITIES VIEWING ADVISED 	Sales Wye Close £180,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS SEMI DETACHED OFF ROAD PARKING WEST END LOCATION VIEWING ADVISED 	Sales Brynhill Close £170,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THREE BEDROOMS WELL PRESENTED VALE VIEWS SINGLE GARAGE



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NEW



Heol Eryr Mor, Barry Island
5/6 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Eat In Family Kitchen
3 Bathrooms; Sea Views; Double Garage

£385,000 C74

NEW



Fonmon Park Road, Rhoose
3 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Extended Kitchen/Breakfast Room
Superb Sunny Rear Garden

£169,950 tbc

NEW



Rockdene, Rhoose Road
3 Bedrooms and 2/3 Receptions
Traditional Style Property
Central Rhoose Village; No Chain

£169,950 tbc



Chris Davies




Kenilworth Road, Barry
Building Plot
Full Planning Consent Given
4 One Bedroom Maisonnets

£85,000 tbc



Jenner Road, Barry
2 Bedroom Maisonnée
70' Rear Garden
Excellent Order Throughout

£105,000 C76



Nordale Rise, Barry
2 Bedrooms
Parking
UPVC. GCH

£110,000 D66

NEW



Queen Street, Barry
3 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
First Floor Bathroom/WC/Shower
West End; No Chain;

£119,950 tbc

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**Fonmon Park Road,
Rhoose, Barry.**
Three Bedrooms,
Kitchen Diner,
Garage.
D58. Band D.
£680 PCM.

**Catallina House,
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Barry.**
One Double
Bedroom,
Third Floor
Apartment,
Kitchen with some
appliances.
B81. Band C.
£525 PCM.

**Broad Close,
Pontypridd Rd,
Barry.**
First Floor
Apartment,
2 Double
Bedrooms,
Balcony & Garage.
D56. Band C.
£495 PCM.

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NEW



Pencoedre Road, Barry
2 Bedrooms, 1 En-Suite
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60' Garden With Workshop

£125,000 D56



Salisbury Road, Barry
2 Double Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Backing On To Porthkerry Road
First Floor Bathroom; West End; No Chain

£127,000 D64



Brookfield Avenue, Barry
2 Bedrooms
Landscaped Rear Garden
Very Well Kept Throughout

£142,000 D66



Windsor Road, Barry
4 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Kitchen/Diner Open To Utility
Excellent Order & West End

£210,000 F38



Pontypridd Road, Barry
3 Bed Semi Backing Farmer's Fields
2 Receptions; Ground Fir Shower Rm/WC
First Floor Jacuzzi Bathroom/WC

£249,950 D68



Romilly Road, Barry
4 Double Bedrooms; 3 Receptions
Superb Sea Views; Car Hardstand
Very Spacious & Period Features

£285,000 D59



Golwg Y Coed, Barry
4 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Large Family Kitchen/Diner
Superb Order; Enclosed Garden

£319,950 C79



Meadowcroft, Rhoose
Studio Apartment
Allocated Parking
Ideal 1st Buy or Buy To Let

£62,000 E42



Meadowcroft, Rhoose
2 Bedrooms; Driveway
Generous Enclosed Rear Garden
Excellent Order Throughout

£129,950 D67



Fonmon Park Road, Rhoose
3 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Superb 2015 Refitted Kitchen
GCH; uPVC; Garage; No Chain

£145,000 C73



The Wheate Close, Rhoose
3 Bedrooms; 2 Receptions
Sunny Good Size Rear Garden
Excellent Order Throughout

£199,950 D60



Hearte Close, Rhoose
4 Bedrooms/2 Receptions
Select Cul-De-Sac Location
Large Family Rear Garden

£230,000 D62

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Llety'r Eos, Rhoose Point
4 Double Bedrooms; 2 En-Suite
Very Generous Plot; Detached Double Garage
Immaculate Order; Select Cul-De-Sac

£305,000 D64



Heol Peartree, Rhoose Point
5 Double Bedrooms; 3 Receptions
Large Family Kitchen; No Chain
Detached Double Garage

£309,950 C71



Glyn Y Gog, Rhoose Point
4 Bedrooms
3 Reception rooms
Large garden

£365,000 C73

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The ideal candidate will be required to possess experience in administration demonstrate commitment, enthusiasm and a good understanding of Local Government procedures and protocol. Previous experience of working in a Local Government environment would be advantageous.
Dinas Powys Community Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer and a copy of our Equal Opportunities Policy can be provided upon asking. An Application Form and Information Pack can be obtained from:
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Email: theclerk@dinaspowys.org
www.dinaspowys.org
Closing Date: Friday, 4th March 2016
Interviews Date: Week Commencing 14th March 2016

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Family Notices

THATCHER

Myrddyn William

Suddenly on February 16, Merv, aged 77 years, of St Donats. Beloved husband to Barbara, much loved dad to Robert, Nicholas and Michael, a devoted grampy to his six grandchildren and a loving brother to Eunice.

He will be greatly missed by his loving family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Tuesday, March 1 at 1.15pm. Family flowers only but donations for Bridgend Judokwai may be forwarded to the funeral director, W.A. Brown & Son, Pembroke House, College Street, Llantwit Major, CF61 1SG.

JAMES

Colin Roy

The family wish to announce the sad passing of Colin on February 13th - beloved husband of Lillian. *He will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends*

Resting at the Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Tuesday, 1st March at 10am.

Family flowers only - donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support The Stroke Unit at Llandough Hospital. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

JONES

Colin

(of Arlington Road, Sully)

Passed away peacefully on Wednesday, 17th February 2016. Former colleague at National Welsh Bus Company and Cardiff Wales Airport.

The funeral will take place at the Cardiff & Vale Crematorium (Port Road East, Barry, CF62 9PX) on Monday, 29th February at 1pm. Dark clothes are not necessary. In lieu of flowers, donations, if desired, can be made to the Chemotherapy Day Unit and Ward East 6 Llandough Hospital at the service or forwarded via Park Funeral Directors, 7 Tynewydd Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 8HB.

Thank You

A BIG Thank You

Anne Sage would like to thank Vernon Hancock for all his help when she fell at Llantwit Cemetery on 5 February.

'I'm very sorry that I haven't been able to thank you before, but I am very grateful for all that you did for me.'

WALKER

Peter Alexander

After a short illness, Peter, formerly of Newport and Bridgend, passed away on 14th January at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Wonford.

His funeral will be held at East Devon Crematorium, Whimple at 2.30pm on Wednesday, 2nd March.

BACON

Gwyneth Ann (née Halliwell)

Peacefully at home in Farnham, Surrey, on Saturday, 13 February, Gwyneth, dearly beloved wife of Peter, devoted sister to Gareth, Glyn & Griff, loving sister-in-law, auntie, and great auntie, and kindest friend to all who knew her. *Gwyneth will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.*

Funeral service and committal at 3pm on Monday, 7 March at The Park Crematorium, Guildford Road, Aldershot, GU12 4BP.

No flowers please, but donations will be kindly received 'in memory of Gwyneth Bacon' by Phyllis Tuckwell Heath, c/o Farnham Funeral Service, 100 Shoreham Road, Farnham, GU9 8SE. Tel: 01252 711444.

LINES

Mervyn Baines

Peacefully on February 17 at UHW Cardiff. Mervyn of Llantwit Major, beloved husband of the late Elizabeth, dearly loved father of Julie, Sarah, Mary-Jane and Michael, dear father-in-law of Roger, Paul, Martin and Stacey, much loved granddad and great granddad.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonnmon. Funeral Tuesday, March 1, service 1.30pm at Wick Church, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.45pm. Family flowers only may be sent to the funeral home, donations in lieu, if desired, to British Heart Foundation c/o J James, 11 Fonnmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

SYMMONDS

Christine

Peacefully on February 22 in hospital, Chris, aged 72 years of Llantwit Major. Beloved wife of Brian. *She will be greatly missed by her loving family and friends.*

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Wednesday, March 2 at 10am (where all please meet). No flowers by request please.

All enquires to W.A. Brown & Son. 01446 792489.

CREMIN

Patricia

Peacefully at home on February 20th with her daughters Ann & Lesley at her bedside. Patricia, beloved wife of the late Harold, cherished nan to all her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Loving sister to Valerie and brother-in-law Graham. *She will be dearly missed by all her family and friends.*

Patricia is being cared for by Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service and committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Thursday, 3rd March 2016 at 10am. Family floral tributes only please - donations if desired may be made at the service to The Alzheimers Society & Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth. Further enquires to Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

ROBINS

Arthur Henry

Peacefully on February 17 at Brocastle Manor Care Home, after an illness bravely borne, Arthur, much loved husband of Pam.

Private cremation at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, February 26. Enquiries to Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, Pencoed Tel: 01656 860545.

In Memory

NETHERCOTT
Remembering
Terry
2.8.35 - 26.2.05

Acknowledgements

LEMMER

Roy

Hilary, Matt and Becca would like to say a big thank you to all the many friends who came to Ray's memorial service at St Donats Church, Llantwit Major on Thursday, February 18, for the lovely cards and flowers sent and the support received. To Father Anthony who conducted a beautiful service at the crematorium and the church.

Thank you.

CASTLE

Olive Jean

Brian, Joanne and William would like to thank the many family and friends for their kind messages of support and cards along with their attendance at the celebration of Jean's life. Thanks also for the wonderful collection, in lieu of floral tributes, donated to The Forge Care Centre, Patients Fund, which totalled £400.

HARRIS

Sylvia

Julie and Adrian would like to thank everyone for attending Sylvia's funeral on 18th February 2016 and for all the floral tributes and donations to Cancer Research and Diabetes UK. Special thanks to College Fields Nursing Home, Lyndsay Ellis of Vale Funerals and Reverend Mark Danks for the lovely service.

OSBORNE

George Thomas

The family would like to thank everyone who attended the service of George and for all messages, cards and flowers sent in sympathy and support. Sincere thanks to all relatives, friends, especially those that travelled some distance to be there. Pat has been blessed with wonderful neighbours, especially Pam, Alan and Sharon.

Special thanks to Father Kevin Lake for his words of comfort and lovely service. Thanks to Rebecca and staff at A.G. Adams & Son for the caring way in which they carried out their duties and thanks for the donations received for LATCH and Ty Hafan.

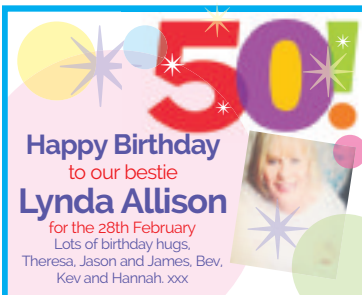
ADBY

Alan Gordon

Julie, Andy and family would like to thank all who attended the funeral service on Friday, 19th February 2016 at Ewenny Priory Church and to everyone who sent flowers and cards with messages of sympathy and condolence.

Special thanks to Rev Hazel Norfolk for guidance and for conducting a lovely service, and to Andrew Thomas Funeral Director for help and support at this truly sad time.

Birthdays



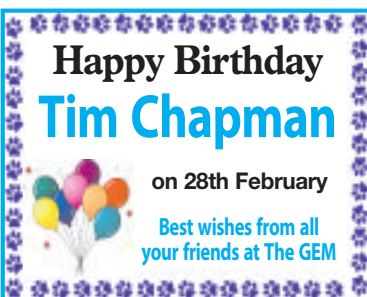
50!
Happy Birthday
to our bestie
Lynda Allison
for the 28th February
Lots of birthday hugs,
Theresa, Jason and James, Bev,
Kev and Hannah. xxx



Heather Parsons
The most BEAUTIFUL and CARING LADY a family could wish for to love them always.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES
for Sunday 28 February.
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Tim Chapman
on 28th February
Best wishes from all
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Happy 40th Birthday!
To a wonderful wife,
mother & daughter
Lots of love from Hugh,
Daisy & Alice, Mum & Dad



Diana Searle
(Née Steensen)
To the best mother
(mother-in-law) in the whole
world. Wishing you a very
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on the 2nd March
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xxx
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www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

Gr-eight performance from hockey team puts them on the road to title

PENARTH Hockey Club maintained its winning run over the weekend, with the first XI taking another step towards the De Cymru & The Marches 1 title while the seconds recorded two vital away wins to keep themselves in their own GoCrea8 Hockey League promotion battle.

PENARTH 8, BRIDGEND 2
With injuries and suspensions still looming over them, Penarth's first team squad was again reduced to relying on a basic 11 players to claim the victory and three points on offer in a potential 'banana skin' fixture against Bridgend.

With the home side dominating play and creating several chances, Bridgend had their in-form goalkeeper to thank for keeping the scores level early on.

However, with the pressure mounting, it wasn't long before the floodgates opened, with the indefatigable Laith El-Khatib registering the first goal to continue his remarkable recent run with yet another trademark drag flick.

David Joyce added a second goal before Chris Baker increased his tally to put Penarth three goals to the good.

Having exercised full control over the game en route to their lead, the Vale side were then guilty of switching off and, with one pass beating their midfield and defence, a Bridgend forward made no mistake as he swept the ball home through Adam Putt's legs to give the visitors a glimmer of hope.

Angered by giving away their clean sheet to a sloppy goal, the Bears were stung back into action, with Baker

requiring barely a minute to restore the three-goal lead, and Penarth would go on to put the game to bed before the half was through, as El-Khatib followed up a Baker shot which ricocheted back off the crossbar to finish emphatically from a tight angle.

The second half saw Bridgend come out with a lot more intensity and purpose as they looked to restore some pride and, with Penarth perhaps resting on their laurels, the away team would go on to dominate the opening 10 minutes.

However, El-Khatib would grab himself another goal to complete his hat-trick but, not to be outdone, Joyce would score two second-half goals to also claim a treble and match his rival stride for stride.

To Bridgend's credit, they would keep fighting to the end and scored a consolation goal to leave the final score at 8-2 to a Penarth side disappointed to concede two soft goals, but nevertheless still delighted with their overall performance.

With just three games remaining in their quest for promotion from De Cymru and The Marches 1, the Vale side require one more victory to guarantee promotion and two to claim the title, but are feeling greedy and are targeting all three in a bid to go out on a high.

NEATH 'A' 0, PENARTH 'A' 4

The second XI travelled to Neath on Saturday with a bare 11 players, having had to borrow from the thirds and call up part-time keeper James Erasmus to deputise in goals.

Midway through the half Chick slipped the ball to Dave Kidby, whose initial shot appeared to have been smashed high into the net, but a quick consultation between the umpires decided that there had been a deflection and the goal

was allowed to stand.

Falling behind made no difference to a Neath side desperate to stay in the division next season, and the hosts continued to attack through their strong midfield.

Although Erasmus didn't have an entirely quiet first half, the few times he was called upon presented no problem.

The Vale side were quick to turn defence into attack, with Townsend and eventual man-of-the-match Patel linking up down the right wing and the latter feeding the ball to Watkins, who skipped past two defenders before presenting Kidby with an opportunity to double the advantage as half-time approached.

The second period saw Penarth tighten their grip even further and, with Kidby and Davison in full control of the midfield, Watkins and Chick were able to exert greater pressure on a beleaguered home defence. The former eventually got his rewards with the third - and potentially most important - goal of the day as it removed any realistic hope of a Neath comeback.

From a penalty corner Watkins injected direct to Kidby, who crashed a dipping shot over the prone keeper and into the backboards. Again the umpires consulted and, again, they awarded the goal, allowing Penarth to close out the game and leave Erasmus to become nothing more than a somewhat soggy spectator.

LLANISHEN & CAERPHILLY 'A' 0, PENARTH 'A' 3
With less than 24 hours to prepare - and dry out - ahead of their top of the table clash at Hawthorn, Penarth arrived in the continuing drizzle with a slightly re-jigged line-up as Richard Baker came in for Patel and Graeme Jones gamely accepted the substitute role following a very

cooly slotted home. Dinas then went up through the gears and chances were coming thick and fast. A change in players saw Hannah Beddoe make an impact, rifling home from a corner following a few shots. Vicki Ellison was unlucky not to increase the lead with a speculative overhead kick.

Barry were then forced into long balls which the visitors dealt with time and time again. The clock was slowly running down when Dinas continued to try and play their passing game, creating the best passage of play in the game.

A ball from defence found the midfield, who threaded a ball through to Beddoe who showed composure to find Laura May Lewis, who calmly slotted home to put the game to bed and send Dinas into the semi-final, the final score 3-2.

late call-up.

With Erasmus also unavailable for the re-arranged fixture, Birch took it upon himself to don the pads and helmet, perhaps giving the league leaders the impression that Penarth A were weakened and there for the beating.

Anything other than a victory for Penarth could have confirmed promotion for the Llanishen side, but with the chance of going up still a possibility for the Vale side, their determined attitude made for one of the easiest team talks of the season.

With Chick, Watkins and Saturday's hat-trick hero Kidby working well as a trio up front, it was no surprise when Penarth finally took the lead their pressure deserved.

With Davison, now back in defence, having fed Kerr-Smith, a 1-2 with Chick caused further confusion in the Llanishen penalty area, before Chick was able to force the ball over the line - much to the delight of his team-mates, coach and chairman.

Although Penarth went into half-time delighted with the hard work that left them a goal up on the potential winners of De Cymru 2, coach Baker reminded them of the importance of the final ball into the D as, for 75 yards, the Vale side had moved possession beautifully from defence to attack.

The Vale side were rewarded with another penalty corner of their own and, as per the previous day, a routine change paid dividends as the bloodied pairing of Watkins and Kidby - who had taken a blow to the mouth - combined to win a penalty stroke, which the latter, despite the best distracting efforts of the home keeper, converted via a deflection.

Penarth managed to add a third goal when Watkins was rewarded for his bravery, intercepting a defensive pass before rounding the keeper to put the game to bed, and the visitors were able to concentrate on securing a fourth successive clean sheet.

Davison took home man-of-the-match honours after another consummate performance in the heart of the defence, but the entire side will need to continue operating at a similarly high level for Penarth to achieve their aim of promotion.

With two winnable games between now and the impending finale at fellow promotion chasers Swansea University, the season looks set to go all the way to the wire.

PENARTH 'B' 0, BRIDGEND 'B' 3
As the appalling conditions continued to engulf the whole of south Wales, Penarth 'B' entertained

promotion rivals Bridgend in a true 'six-pointer', with the Bees positioned three points behind their opponents with a game in hand, but with a significantly poorer goal difference.

While the conditions only served to stifle Penarth's normally free flowing game, the bigger, stronger and largely younger Bridgend side thrived in the high winds and driving rain, dominating for long periods and restricting the home side to the occasional breakaway while establishing a comfortable 2-0 lead at the break.

The first goal of the second period would prove crucial and somewhat against the run of play the visitors scored their third and final goal to secure the win their early dominance merited.

As well as the players on both sides, special mention must be made of umpires Neil Jewess and Brenda Goodfellow, whose authoritative but sympathetic umpiring in truly appalling conditions ensured an open game played in good spirits.

While not mathematically beyond their reach, Penarth Bees now need others to slip up - and to secure their own improbable win at runaway leaders Whitchurch - to secure the runners-up slot and automatic promotion in a season where just fielding a third side for the first time in 10 years has been a huge success.

All three Penarth sides will be in action again this coming weekend, with the first XI continuing their promotion push at Bristol & West, while the seconds travel to familiar foe Whitchurch in search of the goals that could determine the outcome of their season. The third XI, meanwhile, host Swansea City at Stanwell School, hoping to improve on the draw the sides shared earlier in the season.

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. Training takes place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7.15pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact either player-coach Ben Croxall (b_croxall20@yahoo.co.uk) or club secretary Dave Stevens (d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

News from the Barry Chess Club

THIS week it was back to a more normal schedule of matches. Three of our teams were in action but were only able to record one victory.

On Monday the Bosons played host to the Bridgend Central Rockets in the first division. The Rockets are in danger of being relegated while the Bosons' aspirations to win the title have all but disappeared.

To maintain their third position in the league the Bosons needed a victory which they duly attained by the narrowest of margins.

Dave Parsons was the only player on the night to win with the black pieces. He was ably supported by Matthew Davies and Sam Jukes to give the Bosons three points.

Dave Robinson and Damon Davies earned victories for the Rockets to give a final score of 3-2 to the Bosons.

On the same night the Quarks in division three travelled to play the Pontypridd Phoenix.

The Phoenix may be the team directly above us in the league but with their greater strength in depth this was always going to be a hard game.

Martin Ricketts and Ken Curry both earned good draws against higher rated opponents. Unfortunately that was the only point we could muster, eventually losing the match by 4-1.

However a crushing defeat for the Cardiff Cavaliers increased our margin over the teams currently in the relegation places to one whole point.

The North Cardiff Ravens edged closer losing their match to Porthcawl but picking up two points in the process.

It is getting tight at the bottom of this division making our next match,

away to bottom club Caerphilly Knights, a vital encounter in our efforts to avoid relegation particularly as they also have a game in hand over all of the other teams in the bottom half of the division.

On Wednesday it was the turn of the Camelots to travel, this time to Cardiff, where their opponents would be the Castles.

The Camelots are certain to be relegated but want to finish the season without a whitewash. The Castles were on average rated over 440 points per board.

Indeed their player on the bottom board, Charles Summers, has a rating 204 points above Sam Jukes who occupied our top board on this occasion.

So it is with some pride and relief that I can report that although we lost the match, Peter Watkins on board five saved our blushes and maintained our record of picking up something in every match with an excellent victory over Charles. We might have lost 4-1 but we can still hold our heads up high!

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at The West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night but if you contact one of the club members through the website we can explain what is happening on the night you have in mind, and arrange for someone to greet you on your arrival.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

PJ

The Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

LATEST results for January 25 are:

First division: SV Gals (B Pycroft 30) 283, Coppers (J Ward 34) 309; Special Angels (J Abram 31) 212, Space Finders (L Hembury, M Clark 31) 292; Bobby's Girls (S Sugden 28) 256; Baker's Dozen (E Baker 33) 294; Colcot Ladies (S Howcroft 23) 223, Cigar Ladies (L Webb 28) 245; Breakaways (C Smith, L Smith, J Swayne 30) 325, Castle Bandits (J Grant 33) 278; Barry Stars (A Morgan, D James 31) 325, Family and Friends (L Sheppard 37) 346; Allsorts (J Jones 28) 227, Family Affair (D Brown 26) 259.

Second division: Pila Palas (D O'Sullivan 36) 334, Vixens (M Marks 35) 328; Cad Con Fillies (C Pearce 26) 222, Castaways (M Winder 26) 230; Rhooose Ravers (C Davidson 27) 247, Little Devils (J Jones, G Bowen 25) 252; Witchill Widows (L Spyron 34) 318, Rhooose Starlights (N Pullin 34) 329; S V Lights (E Andrews 29) 274, After Eights (E Carmichael 29) 276; Witchill Weebies (S Lou 38) 334, Red Admiral (S Hayes 32) 322.

Third division: Rugby Triers (J Gough 27) 220, Westenders (T Lambeth 26) 229; Hill Billies (M Whyman 32) 340, Persuaders (K Kemp 33) 282; Etetcera (P Tumulty 29) 264, La Belles (C Knight 29) 232; Airways Angels (A

Sales 27) 241, Fallen Angels (T Lawrence, L Chambers 27) 259; Twilights (T Davies 23) 211, Roller Coasters (G Giles 24) 202; S V Ladies (F Butler 29) 266, Dolly Mixtures (K Rideout 30) 264.

Fourth division: Guardian Angels (S Ashton 23) 210, Rebels (M Phillips 26) 213; Challengers (J Diamond 34) 303, Witchill Wanderers (W Peplow,

V Kerslake 30) 231; Aristocats (S Morgan, C Chatwell 23) 213, Off The Rails (L Wiltshire, I Rosser 24) 243; Nite Outers (M Hudson 26) 231, Liberals (K Stevens, G Shire 23) 127; Hell Raisers (L Waters 28) 219, Socialites (P Todd, A Hicks 23) 204; Witches (L Carey 25) 231, Living On A Spare (S Townsend 26) 209.

Ladies Day and point-to-point news...

THIS Saturday is Winter Ladies Day at Chepstow Racecourse, where the feature race is a £40,000 handicap chase won last year by the 2014 Champion Chase winner Sire De Gruy.

There will be live music from Michael Buble and Olly Murs tribute acts, a fashion show and fashion demonstrations as well as prizes for the best dressed lady, man and couple.

For more information visit www.chepstow-racecourse.co.uk.

POINT-TO-POINTS IN VALE
The Glamorgan Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases will be

held at Ystradowen on March 6, and the Ystrad Taf Fechan fixture will take place over the same course on April 10.

The Llangeinor Hunt will be staging their meeting at the Dunraven Stud at Pyle on April 16.

Other point-to-points to note are as follows -

South Pembrokeshire at Yldstep March 28, Monmouthshire at Llanvapley April 2, Tivysside & Carmarthenshire at Yldstep April 24, Banwen Miners at Llwyndu Glais May 2, Tredegar Farmers at Lower Machen May 8, Gelligaer Farmers at Lower Machen May 21 and Pembrokeshire at Trecoed on June 4.

BRIAN LEE

DINAS LADIES REACH CUP FINAL WITH WIN

DINAS POWYS Ladies started this cup match against Barry Town Development in a confident mood.

This bubble was soon popped as the home side took an early lead from a superb 20 yard free kick.

The villagers rarely threatened in the next 30 minutes of play in a poor game of football. When nothing looked on, Laura May Lewis popped in an equaliser from a well placed freekick from Jade Plumby.

Minutes later Rachel Beare thought she had given the visitors the lead with a great header only to see the Barry keeper force it wide. The half-time score was 1-1.

The second half saw the girls in red and black get their footballing heads on and camped in the home side's half for the first 10 minutes.

A hopeful hit and hope evaded the Dinas defenders and the Barry striker

LL

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Barry Athletic cricketers bag it up for the club!



THE Barry Athletic Cricket youth section enjoyed a bag packing session at Tesco's Barry on Saturday, February 20.

The children were able to display their new shirts, kindly sponsored by Nathan Baker, managing director of Plus Network Solutions.

The recently reformed youth section collected £451 from the afternoon's activities with 18 young members from the youth section helping out.

Tesco's also kindly supported the club with a book sale which raised £200.

The customer's feedback was

excellent with the children receiving thanks on how polite and well behaved they were.

Brochan Evans entertained the shoppers, singing hits from the past 50 years.

Mark Ellis, the youth co-ordinator, commented: "I'd like to thank Tesco's for their support to a local sports club like ours, the money will go a long way to helping us in our first season of under-9 and under-11 league cricket. Everyone had a great afternoon and enjoyed themselves."

The money raised will go towards purchasing new equipment and a summer event.

The youth section currently

train on Sunday afternoons from 2pm-3pm at Colcot Sports Hall. New members of all abilities (both boys and girls) from the ages of seven to 13.

This Sunday sees a Glamorgan cricket player, David Lloyd, attending training; he will give expert advice on batting, bowling and fielding to those attending.

Outdoor sessions will start in April at Barry Athletic Cricket ground at Barry Island.

For more information on the club's junior and senior training and net sessions, please contact Mark Ellis, youth co-ordinator on 07826 020707 or email ozietour@hotmail.com.

MR

JEFF WINS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORK

JEFF SAVORY, who lives in Barry and is Chair of Special Olympics Wales, has won a lifetime achievement award from Disability Sport Wales, for his work with athletes with an intellectual disability.

For more than 30 years, he has made a significant impact on disabled people's lives and opportunities in sport through his dedication and hard work.

Jeff has started many new clubs throughout Wales where he has helped introduce inclusive sport.

He also coaches at many clubs within the Cardiff and Vale area, running weekly sessions in golf at St Andrews Major Golf Club, kayaking at Barry Dock and artistic gymnastics at Penarth Gymnastics Club, which is now based in Ty Verlon Estate, Barry.

Anthony Abbott, who nominated Jeff for the award, said: "He is completely dedicated to Special Olympics and I really mean the athletes. He is a 'go to person'; any sort of problem you have, any sort of issues, and he will sort it!"

Christine Hewlett,

gymnastic coach, said: "I honestly don't know where he gets the energy and time from and actually commits to what he does, and he's been doing this for years. It's fantastic, you don't get people putting in that amount of effort and care over that length of time."

Robin O'Donovan, aquatics coach, added: "He put a heck of a lot of his own time, and no doubt a lot of his own money, into this, and we appreciate it more than we can say. We don't thank him enough ever, but he deserves all the thanks we can give him."



Jeff Savory with trophy, Pippa Britton, chair of Disability Sport Wales and Anthony Abbott who nominated Jeff.

Barry and District mens skittle league

DIVISION 1:

BP Breakaways (G.Slocombe 27) 263, Geest (J.Hawkins 29) 270; Bunker Boys (B.Hewitson 28) 283, Cavaliers (G.Stephenson 29) 277; Ex-Servicemen (T.Martin 28) 276, Colcot Boys (G.Mills 26) 233; Mighty Dockers (M.Conway 28) 274, Sea View (R.Perry 26) 235; The Hairy Lemons (L.Russell 30) 300, Barry Park

'B'(G.Goldsby 30) 273.

Division 2:

Abercete (R.Miller, D.Selby 31) 290, Posties (N.Tipples 28) 283; The Royalists (D.Wright 30) 287, Park Rangers (G.Bennett 26) 277; Tynny Fliers (S.Tobin 29) 270, Tynewydd Lads (D.Sluman 29) 286; Willie Wombles (S.Cannon 29) 284, Cannon Balls (S.Pike 31) 301; Witchill Poachers (R.Ashby 40) 387, Exiles

(F.Coughlan, G.Mitchell 33) 327.

Division 3:

British Rail (B.Smith 30) 264, Castle Boys (D.Woodham 29) 266; Castle Boys (T.Leat, D.Woodham 27) 242, The Alternatives (M.Davies 33) 288; Glenbrook Rangers (M.Robson 27) 257, Up The Mariner (B.Leach 26) 240; The Alternatives (M.Antwood 26) 245, C.U.D. (A.Day 31) 272.

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- 58 MAZDA 2 TS2 1.4 3-Dr In met-grey, 57,000 miles, 1 owner**£3,995**
- 06 MINI Cooper In British Racing Green, 61,000 miles with over £2000 of extras when new**£3,995**
- 58 NISSAN Micra 1.2 Accenta 3-Dr In met blue, 42,000 miles, a/c, cd etc**£2,995**
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Netball squad impress at championships

AFTER a vigorous selection process, 25 girls from comprehensive schools all over Cardiff & Vale were selected as part of the Cardiff & Vale under-14 netball squad.

After a five month training programme and being unbeaten in all matches, the coaches and players had high hopes going into the Welsh under-14 netball championships.

The girls did not disappoint with some outstanding netball; the A squad won seven matches and lost one (by one goal!) and were crowned runners-up.

The B squad, which is made up of girls all a year younger, played superbly, and with so much maturity, to win all matches to be crowned Welsh champions.

The Cardiff & Vale under-14 netball squad are: St Richard Gwyn High School - G Helleman; Cowbridge Comprehensive - B Edwards, H McCormack, F Coates; St Cyres Comprehensive - M White; Stanwell Comprehensive - N Sultana, A Colderley, S Anderton, O Tyso, L Selman, H Williams, O Scott; Bro Ederny - G Connolly, M Evans; Corpus Christi High - A Pattison, C Luff-Evans; Cardiff High School - R Lloyd, E Beddall; Glantaff High School - H Jones, A Evans, C Jones, M Morgan, E Jones, N Davies; St Teilo - M Beadle.

Coaches - M Helleman (Corpus Christi High School), M Hunter (Stanwell Comprehensive), J Knight (St Richard Gwyn High School).

MH

South Wales Scorpions knocked out of Cup

THE new-look South Wales Scorpions were knocked out of the iPro Sport Cup in the first round by London Skolars on Saturday, going down 44-6.

Injuries destroyed the Scorpions' fluidity and confidence, as debutants had to play out of position, and more importantly, they only had two substitutes to play with for nearly an hour.

London, and former Scorpion Elliot Kear, were denied an early try after the Welsh international received a forward pass from Sam Nash before touching down.

Scorpions took the lead on 12 minutes when Connor Farrer dived over

from dummy half. Emanuel converted. Kear wasn't to be denied however. Following a good passing move, he grounded in the corner, despite the best efforts of the Scorpions' players to attempt to push him into touch.

Lawrence, a close-season signing from Hemel Stags, missed the conversion and the Welsh held onto a two-point lead.

Scorpions had been close to the line on a few occasions to try and extend their lead, as did Skolars who were closest when, just before the half hour, pressure caused Will Lovell to drop the ball as he was diving for the line.

But they did gain advantage on 34 minutes when, following a penalty, Charlie

Lawrence dived over and did better with the conversion to make it 10-6.

They extended their lead just before the break after substitute Erjon Dollepi dived over from dummy half. Lawrence added the extras to put London 10 points in the lead.

It took a good move to get Skolars further ahead. Lawrence kicked a neat chip and Alex Anthony ran onto it to touch down. Lawrence easily converted.

They scored again from the next set as Dollapi set up Mbaraga to score with Lawrence unable to improve on this occasion. Kear notched his second following a fine passing move with Lawrence failing to convert.

Aaron Small got the next Skolars try, grounding in the corner, with Lawrence failing to convert.

Ben Pointer received the ball from Kear to run over with Lawrence converting. Sam Nash added another but Scorpions could have got a consolation near the end. Scott Gregory neatly slipped a pass to Dai Evans but the winger was stopped in his tracks a couple of metres from the line.

South Wales Scorpions will be looking for a better performance this Saturday when they travel to Featherstone Lions in the third round of the Ladbrokes Challenge Cup (kick-off 3pm).

IG

Brian's Blast From The Past – 1994

GEM columnist Brian Lee, who is celebrating half a century of reporting on the Welsh hunting scene, takes a look at his press cuttings book for 1994 and under the heading 'Cowbridge Farmer Makes Racing History – A special report by Brian Lee', this is what he had to say in the Glamorgan GEM dated March 31, 1994.

"Cowbridge farmer John Llewellyn rode his 269th point-to-point winner at the Carmarthenshire Hunt Steeplechases on Chibougama and has gone into second place in the all-time list of winning point-to-point riders.

"Only Suffolk's David Turner, who has ridden 343 winners, has ridden more than the Welsh maestro. The records will now show that the late Major Guy Cunard, who booted home 268 winners has been pushed back into third place.

"Unlike David Turner, who had his own large string of horses to back him up, John has done it the hard way, riding for many different owners since he notched up his first win on Highland Myth at Llanharry, way back in 1967.

"The farmhorse where he was born was on the site of the old Cowbridge Steeplechase course at Penllyn, which has seen the likes of the famed Anthony and Rees brothers, and some of his early successes were gained on the same course when it was used for point-to-point racing in the 1960s.

Although he started riding in point-to-points at 16, amazingly he didn't ride his first winner until he was 20.

"However, he has a habit of making hunt-racing history and in 1982 he became the first Welshman to win the national riders' championship outright, with a Welsh record for the season of 19 winners.

"John has won the Welsh title on a number of occasions. He has also ridden winners under Rules at racecourses like Newbury, Cheltenham, Sandown, Hereford and Chepstow.

"It was at Chepstow in front of a large Welsh crowd that he gained a memorable win on Grenville Richards' *Fixed Price* in the 1986 Land Rover Gentlemen's Hunters Chase Final to become the first Welshman to win the race.

"Four broken collarbones, a broken shoulder blade, hip and not to mention a wrist and various other 'minor' injuries. A well-known showjumping competitor, he is something of an expert with novice horses. After more than 30 years in the

sport, he often finds himself competing against the sons of the fathers he was riding against in the 1960s and 70s.

"He has seen a lot of changes in his time and says: "The standard of riding has improved, most racecourses are better laid out and there is more emphasis put on the safety of riders and horses."

"A credit to the sport in Wales, he was the recipient of a special award for his services to point-to-pointing at the sport's annual dinner dance a couple of years ago."

For the record, John's 270 winners have now been passed by four other male riders, none of them Welsh.

And under the heading 'Twenty-Five Year Career Is Over' I reported: "Chepstow's Richard Hambleton, one of the unsung heroes of point-to-point steeplechasing, has hung up his riding boots after more than 25 years in the saddle. Often outspoken, he has to coin a cliché, the heart of a lion.

"Despite having teeth knocked out, both arms broken, shoulders smashed and various other injuries, he never lost his enthusiasm for the sport he loved.

"Even when all the bones were smashed in his face after a dreadful car accident it didn't stop him riding.

"He never rode many winners, the highlight of his race riding career perhaps being a double at the Curra, Howick in 1980 on *Late Guest* and *Flying Boy*. I will always associate him with the inaptly named *Gracious Lady* which the formbook claimed was a 'highly unsatisfactory ride and a waste of time for racing'.

"In 1975 he not only trained her to win two races, but rode her as well! The jockeys' changing tent will never seem quite the same ever again."

Tim Jones of Rudry has won the Welsh point-to-point riders' championship for the third time.

Jones, who rode 16 winners plus a winner under rules, previously landed the title in 1988 and 1990. Jones' 16 wins between-the-flags were gained on 15 different horses.

A former Welsh junior international show-jumper, Jones is one of around 40 riders to have ridden more than 100 point-to-point winners.

He rode his first winner in 1984 at the Llangeinor Hunt Steeplechases, the meeting where 12 years earlier his father Lloyd Jones had been killed in a race riding accident.

In 1985 Jones rode five winners as well as his first under rules on *Japling* at Newton Abbot, and in 1986 he chalked-up seven wins before going on to win the

Massey Ferguson Maiden Hunter Chase Championship at Worcester on John Parfitt's Tarville.

One of those successes was gained on a horse which was to become Wales' most famous steeplechaser - Sirrell Griffiths' 1990 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner *Norton's Coin*.

Jones won the Ystrad Maiden on *Norton's Coin* that season and also partnered the Welsh wonder horse to his first success on a racecourse proper when they landed the Spartan Hunter Chase at Chepstow in 1988.

The previous season Jones had booted home nine winners and he doubled that score in 1988, which was the year Cowbridge's John Llewellyn set a Welsh record of 20 wins.

In 1989, Jones rode 16 winners and in 1990 he managed to equal his personal best of 18 wins. The highlight of his riding career to date came at the end of that season at the Cheltenham Hunters Evening Meeting when he scored a brilliant double with *Rectory Boy* in the Bellstaff Novices Hunter Chase and *Sweet Rascal* in the Champagne Piper Heidsiek United Hunts' Challenge Cup.

In fact, Jones has ridden the winner of the latter race on three occasions.

Jones used to ride for Peter Bowen, but the Dyfed livery yard trainer vowed that he wouldn't ride for him again after last season's sensational three-horse open race at the Gelligaer Farmers, when the Bowen-trained *Brunico*, ridden by Ron Trellogen, *Zephyr Nights*, ridden by Tim Jones, and *Alf Maraba*, partnered by Robert Rowsell, were involved in a farcical 'race' that took nine minutes and 36 seconds.

Jones also won the Bill Jones Memorial Trophy for the leading rider in the south Wales area.

Jones' younger sister Pip, was going great guns for the women's amateur riders' title until a schooling accident put her on the sidelines.

The Vale's Willie Pugh won the novice rider award and the Elfin David Memorial Trophy went to Shan Farr's Charlotte Lane and Dillwyn Thomas' Daisy Miller equal-first.

Please e-mail your horse racing stories and photographs to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone 02920736438

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Gatland's tried and trusted Wales can make it five in a row against France

FEW eyebrows were expected to be raised with Tuesday's announcement of the Wales team to face Grand Slam-chasing France at Cardiff's Principality Stadium on Friday (kick-off 8.05pm).

Lingering fitness doubts over two or three key players may have delayed head coach Warren Gatland naming a near-unchanged team from the 27-23 win over Scotland – with only the make-up of the back row likely to have entailed any serious head scratching – but even that arch Kiwi tactician was hardly likely to drop a selection bombshell at this stage in the Six Nations.

Not surprisingly, then, given the physical threat posed by the juggernaut French pack, and crucial need to dominate the breakdown, Dan Lydiate rejoins skipper Sam Warburton and Taulupe Faleatau in the now familiar back row, with unlucky Justin Tipuric having to return to the replacements bench.

Bradley Davies coming into the second row in place of the injured Luke Charteris will add grunt to the Welsh eight and the only other, not unexpected, change is the return of Alex Cuthbert on the wing, in place of Blues team mate Tom James.

This is the Wales line-up that can be quietly confident of making it five wins in a row over Les Bleus:

Liam Williams (Scarlets), Alex Cuthbert (Cardiff Blues), Jonathan Davies (ASM Clermont), Jamie Roberts (Harlequins), George North (Northampton Saints), Dan Biggar (Ospreys), Gareth Davies (Scarlets), Rob Evans (Scarlets), Scott Baldwin (Ospreys), Samson Lee (Scarlets), Bradley Davies (Wasps), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Dan Lydiate (Ospreys), Sam Warburton (Cardiff Blues, capt), Taulupe Faleatau (Newport Gwent Dragons).

REPLACEMENTS: Ken Owens (Scarlets), Gethin Jenkins (Cardiff Blues), Tomas Francis (Exeter Chiefs), Jake Ball (Scarlets), Justin Tipuric (Ospreys), Lloyd Williams (Cardiff Blues), Rhys Priestland (Bath Rugby), Gareth Anscombe (Cardiff Blues).

DON JOHN

Dinas Powys outmuscled by Caldicot Town

THIS game between Caldicot Town and Dinas Powys FC was scheduled to be played at The Murch but was switched to Caldicot as Dinas' home pitch was unplayable, avoiding yet a further postponed game.

On a very heavy pitch the game got underway in driving rain and wind and it was soon clear that Dinas were up against it as they were out-muscled by a very strong Caldicot side.

Having said that, the young Dinas side battled gamely and kept the score to 0-0 until the last minute of the first half.

Caldicot started strongly and Richard Sharratt got the first shot away which was straight at James Curtin to make an easy save. They then won a corner; the ball was half cleared to Oli Smith on the edge of the Dinas box and he drove a shot in which cleared the bar.

The hosts' physical presence enabled them to win a lot of the 50-50 tackles but both sides were having difficulty keeping their feet as the pitch cut up rapidly. Another chance came Caldicot's way when a cross from Oli Smith was headed over the Dinas bar by Ben Smith.

Dinas had the odd attack – a cross from Luke Swaffield to Adam Johns was just too far in front of him to control and the home defence dealt with it.

The visitors had a shout for handball soon after this but the referee waved play on. Keiron James was then fouled some 30 yards from goal; Sam Adamson put in a good ball making the Caldicot keeper Josh Harding punch clear under pressure.

However, with just over a minute of the half left the pressure finally told and Tony Wallis squared a ball to Ben Smith to slot home to give the hosts the lead. The last action of the half was a free kick for Dinas

taken by Ryan Garland which he struck well but it hit the wall and was cleared.

The hosts doubled their tally in the very first minute of the second period when a ball across the Dinas box was driven home by Ben Smith. This seemed to knock the stuffing out of Dinas and Tony Wallis made it 3-0 when he controlled a cross to drive the ball past Curtin just eight minutes into the half.

At the other end a diagonal ball reached Sam Adamson who used his pace to drive into the Caldicot box, but he was driven wide and Harding got to the ball before he could shoot.

An inswinging corner for Caldicot hit the far post but Curtin was fouled and Dinas were awarded a free kick to clear the danger.

Dinas introduced fresh legs to try and change the game. Rhys Palmer replacing Ryan Garland and Tom Edwards taking Rhys Harland's place.

Another inswinging corner reached Smith to score his hat-trick and make it 4-0. With 12 minutes remaining Dinas made their final substitution, Adam Jones replacing Luke Swaffield.

Dinas rallied for a while without really threatening the Caldicot goal and when Sam Adamson lost his footing as he was tracking an attack by the prolific Sam Smith, the striker made it 5-0 with a fine strike with just two minutes remaining.

Dinas had battled well but were out-muscled in the end by a strong Caldicot side.

Squad: 1 James Curtin, 2 Sam Adamson, 3 Rhys Harlin, 4 James Bloxham, 5 Nathan Donnelly, 6 Keiron James (c), 7 Luke Swaffield, 8 Mason Ah-Mun, 9 Adam Johns, 10 Myles Case, 11 Ryan Garland, 12 Tom Edwards, 14 Adam Jones, 15 Rhys Palmer, 16 Nicky Bruce.

This Saturday, February 27, Dinas travel West to take on Llanelli Town, kick-off 2pm.

PK

Love is in the air at Brynhill!



Mrs Jenny Pugh (competition secretary), winner Mrs Sue Holland and ladies captain Mrs Liz Fine.

LEFT: Runner-up Mrs Robbie Lee.

THE ladies of Brynhill Golf Club met for lunch after many dedicated souls braved the cold, frost and ice to play in the Valentine's Day 10 hole competition.

The ladies captain, Mrs Liz Fine, presented the winner Mrs Sue Holland (18 points) and runner-up Mrs Robbie-Lee (13 points) with their prizes and, thanked everyone for playing on such a chilly morning.

The ladies enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by the clubs caterers and, yay, we didn't have to do the washing-up!

ET

Jason impresses as he defeats Hanson

JASON Sillet, from Barry, fighting his third professional fight, won against the more experienced Ryan Hanson (nine fights) at Guild Hall, Preston on Saturday night.

Jason started off with a game plan but midway in the first round stood square and got caught with a massive right to his head and found himself on the canvas, shaken but not hurt. He got back on his

feet and the referee gave him a count of 10. Not looking fazed at all, he composed himself and carried on back to the plan.

In the second and third rounds he opened up with some great body and head shots at Hanson.

Taking charge and hurting him, going into the final round he was well clear on points.

Jason stepped the pace up and overwhelmed Hanson with more body shots that Hanson could not answer.

Jason took his third consecutive win with a unanimous point win.

Asking Jason about the knockdown after the fight, he replied: "It's part of the job, how to react and then take control of the fight."

"I am still learning and fighting more experienced fighters. My three opponents so far have had over 50 rounds between them."

"I'll be fighting again in April," he added.

JS

Barrivale Bridge Club results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for February 16 (this is the second session of two for the Barrivale mixed pairs championship):

1st Peter Millar & Jane Brook 62.50%; =2nd Mike Best & Mick Green 60.71%; =2nd Jenny Vaughan & Denis Mottram 60.71%. Peter Millar and Jane Brook also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required.

If you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

DR

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Team advance

LAST November, the Brynhill Mail on Sunday mens team played their grand final match in Spain and won the prestigious Mail on Sunday Trophy.

It is that time of the year again when the knockout rounds resume. The Brynhill Golf Club team was drawn against St. Andrew's Major Golf Club in the first knock-out round and played at Brynhill on Saturday, February 13.

In difficult conditions Brynhill won 3-2; good luck in the next round.

JK